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Worthies, families, and celebrities of Barnsley and the ...

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WORTHIES, FAMILIES, AND CELEBRITIES

OF

BARNSLEY AND THE DISTRICT.

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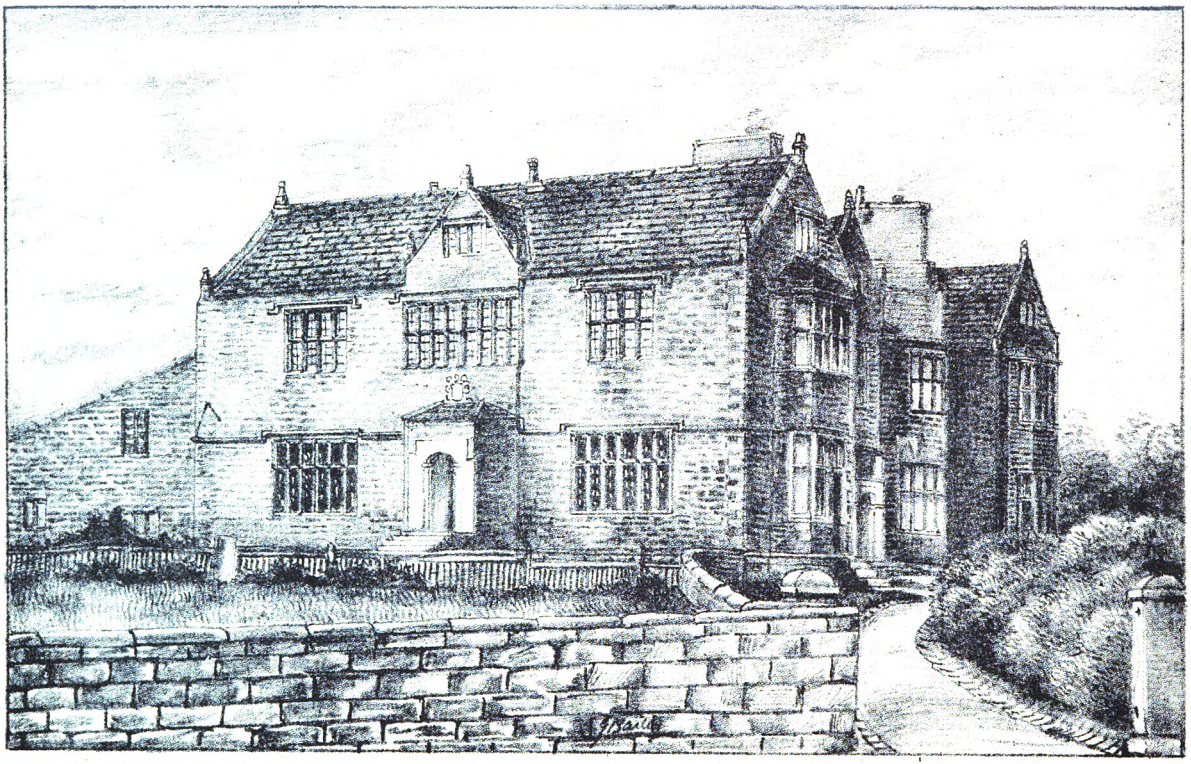

SEE PAGE 138.

Houghton Old Hall

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WORTHIES, FAMILIES,

AND

CELEBRITIES

OF

BARNSLEY AND THE DISTRICT.

BY

JOSEPH WILKINSON.

London:
BEMROSE & SONS, 23, OLD BAILEY;
AND DERBY.

[1893]

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TO

Frederick William Thomas Vernon Wentworth,

OF WENTWORTH CASTLE,

ESQUIRE,

GREAT-GRANDSON OF

THOMAS WENTWORTH, EARL OF STRAFFORD OF STAINBOROUGH,

WHO HAS SO WORTHILY MAINTAINED

THE ANCIENT PRESTIGE OF THE DISTINGUISHED FAMILY

OF WHICH HE IS THE HEAD,

AND SHED A BENIGNANT INFLUENCE OVER THE

DISTRICT AROUND BARNSLEY

DURING A PERIOD OF MORE THAN EIGHTY YEARS,

THIS VOLUME IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

BY THE AUTHOR,

AS A SMALL TRIBUTE TO HIS WORTH,

AND IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MANY FAVOURS

RECEIVED AT HIS HANDS.

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PREFACE.

BARNSLEY and the surrounding district are rich in historical associations connected with residences, families, and persons of note. Among the former we may instance the splendid mansions of Wentworth House and Wentworth Castle, and Wortley, Bretton, Woolley, Houghton, and Cannon Halls, which are not to be surpassed in grandeur, if the limited area within which they are situated is taken into account, by mansions in any other part of Yorkshire. Among the latter we have four families which have passed into the Baronetage from the town of Barnsley alone, viz. :—those of Armytage, Beckett, Wombwell, and Wood, the last named having recently been raised to the peerage, and being represented by so distinguished a peer as Viscount Halifax. Among the individuals of note who have sprung from the neighbourhood, not the least conspicuous are Dr. Nicholas Saunderson, the blind mathematician (one of the most distinguished men this country ever produced); Robert Holgate, Archbishop of York; Joseph Bramah, the celebrated inventor; Sir George Wood, one of the Barons of the Exchequer; John Charles Brooke, the Herald; Thomas Witlam Atkinson, the Siberian Traveller; Sir Thomas Hallifax, one of the Lord Mayors of London; and a host of other celebrities of lesser note.

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To briefly delineate the lives and characters of some of these distinguished men the following pages have been written. They are part of an extensive series of papers which were contributed to a local journal during the years 1880-1-2, and were favourably received by the public. At the request of many friends the compiler was induced to revise and republish them in a more complete form, and the present volume contains the first series of these sketches. The work of compiling the materials was commenced many years ago, and as these enquiries and researches advanced, the subject so rose in interest and importance, and the compiler became so enamoured in the pursuit, that he was led to accumulate a large amount of matter which is now offered to the reader, and which will be found to be of an original and interesting character. Not the least interesting portion of the information contained in this volume is that relating to Stainborough and its lords, in the history of which the compiler has ever felt deeply interested, and for which he made large collections. He, however, scarcely ever anticipated being able to give so full an account of the Earls of Strafford, of the second creation, and their princely seat as is here presented—an account which embodies some interesting details, and has been compiled from every available source—not the least important being the voluminous Strafford Papers in the Library of the British Museum, which have been laid largely under contribution for this purpose. No little labour has been entailed upon the writer, but he makes no great pretensions to authorship, and all the merit he claims for the work is that of some degree of industry and application in the researches he has made. The undertaking has been to him a labour of love, and if it affords only a

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part of the pleasure to the reader it has done to the compiler, the latter will be satisfied. He has, however, the gratification of knowing that he has done some little to trace out and elucidate the biographical history of families and persons who have been associated with and shed a halo over a town and district of which he claims to be very proud.

The work is illustrated with original portraits and views of some of the characters and their residences. Among the former are portraits of Sir Francis Wood, of Barnsley, and Sir Francis Lindley Wood, of Hemsworth, from oil paintings at Hickleton; and Sir Thomas Hallifax, from a painting in the Guildhall, London; while those of Baron Wood, Archbishop Holgate, John Charles Brooke, the Earls of Strafford, and others are from rare and scarce prints. Among the views, those representing the ruins of Houghton Hall, and what remains were to be found forty years ago of Wombwell Hall, the ancient seat of the Wombwell family, and Monk Bretton Priory, will doubtless be looked on with interest.

Materials have been sought for, not only in innumerable costly and scarce books, and in the collections of private individuals, but the manuscript treasures of the British Museum, the Public Record Office, the Lambeth Library, and other sources have been also sedulously searched, so that all the information possible could be brought together for future reference and preservation.

The compiler's thanks are due to a number of gentlemen for the kind interest they have been pleased to take in the work, and for the friendly assistance they have rendered in various ways. Among these are Lord Halifax and Mr. Vernon Wentworth, the late Mr. Charles

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Jackson, of Doncaster, for valuable information supplied from his own collections, and for much friendly counsel; the Rev. W. Consitt Boulter for information relating to Archbishop Holgate; and the Rev. J. Wood Bayldon for similar contributions respecting his ancestor, Baron Wood; while Dr. Sykes, of Doncaster, Mr. Charles Newman, and Mr. Alexander Paterson, of Barnsley, have also rendered assistance in various ways.

In conclusion, the compiler returns his warmest thanks to the numerous subscribers who have favoured him with their support. He would venture to add that he has done his best so to arrange and send out the volume as to make it worthy of public appreciation, his principal ambition having been a desire to record whatever can render the town and district of Barnsley more interesting to his fellow townsmen and to strangers. He may further add that it is intended at no distant date to publish a second series of these Worthies, for which much information remains.

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Sir Francis Wood, Bart., of Barnsley.

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No. I.

The Family of Wood of Monk Bretton and Barnsley.

THE family of Wood, the present head of which is Lord Halifax, is one which, in former times, was largely connected with Monk Bretton, Barnsley, and the district. Its ancestors were living at Monk Bretton, or Burton, as the village was then more generally called, in the middle of the sixteenth century (and probably long before), and were of considerable account. George Wood, of Burton, who was buried at Roystone in 1589, had a lease of Smithies from the Crown, 11th April, 1579, which was renewed 21st May, 1585. His son, George Wood, who is stated to have been of the "Manor House in Burton," was collector of the revenues of the dissolved monastery of Monk Bretton in 1609, and one of the trustees for the grant of the Manor of Burton. This grant was made by letters patent under the Great Seal, on the 28th February, 1610, by James I., to George Wood and John Broadhead, principal freeholders of Burton, in trust for the freeholders at large, and

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they assigned the rights thus conveyed to them by separate grants to each freeholder of the Manor. Through this grant there has not been since that time any Lord of the Manor of Burton, and hence arose the term, "Burton Lords," which is applied to the freeholders of that township. In a Subsidy Roll, dated 1598, occur the following names under "Munk-bretton":—

"Georgius Wood, in bo., v*l.* xiij*s.* iiij*d.*
"Joannes Scamadon, in bo., ij*l.* viij*s.*
"Henricus Broadhead, in bo., ij*l.* viij*s.*
"——— Cusworth, in bo., ij*l.* viij*s.*"

From this it will be seen that the family of Wood was the principal one in the township at that period. The name also occurs in the following roll of 1663:—

"MUNCK BRETTON. £6 . 2 . 8.

"Robert Wood.....	in land	3 . 0 . 0
George Cowper	...	1 . 0 . 0
John Crookes.....	...	1 . 0 . 0
Jonathan Broadhead	...	1 . 0 . 0
Gamaliel Milner.....	...	1 . 6 . 8
William Milner .....in goods		3 . 0 . 0
Widow Johnson	...	3 . 0 . 0
Dame Mary Armyne	in land	4 . 0 . 0"

George Wood purchased Smithies of the Crown, 13th November, 1625. This would appear to have been a place of greater importance in former times than it is at the present day. Before the dissolution of the monasteries, Monk Bretton Priory had iron works there, and in the reign of Elizabeth these iron works were the subject of litigation. In the Chancery proceedings of that reign, Elizabeth Vallyance,

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plaintiff, brought an action against Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, defendant, to enforce the performance of a contract in the purchase of some iron works at Monk Bretton, (no doubt those at Burton Smithies, which is in the township), by the Earl, who was a large purchaser, in this district, of land which had belonged to the Priory. Dodsworth, the Yorkshire antiquary, was at Roystone in 1621, and he states that the iron works at Burton Smithies, which had belonged to Monk Bretton Priory, were then working. It has been stated that they were discontinued in the reign of Charles the First; but before this they had been carried on by the family of Wortley, of Wortley, along with some corn mills which were there situated. There were also paper works carried on at Smithies, at least 150 years ago, for we find in the year 1729 that "Sarah daughter of John Rhodes, of Burton Smithies, paper maker," was baptized in that year; and in 1768, "John son of John Wood, of Burton Smithies, paper maker," was also baptized.

George Wood, who died in 1638, was succeeded at Burton by his son, Robert Wood. Smithies was left to the second son, John, who had settled there, and from whom descended the eminent judge, Baron Wood, who died in 1824, and who will form the subject of a sketch in a future paper.

Peter Wood, the third son, went abroad, and according to Dr. Johnston, the antiquary, was a soldier under Gustavus Adolphus, and was slain at the siege of Leipsic. He is said to have been held in high esteem for his valour.

The eldest son, Robert Wood, was one of the trustees of the Shaw Lands, in 1631. He was also, in 1646, appointed by Mr. Edmund Rogers, who bequeathed the Thorp Audlin estate to the poor of Barnsley, and conferred other benefits

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upon that town, as one of his trustees, with a legacy of £20; whilst Thomas Wood was appointed one of the supervisors of his will, with a legacy of £30.

Among the members of the family who were associated with the parish in the 17th century are the following, which we give from the "Old Town's Books" at Roystone :—

"1620.—George Wood, Churchwarden.
1623.—Robert Wood, Ditto.
1628.—George Wood, Ditto.
1637.—Robert Wood, Ditto.
1663.—John Wood, Smithies, Ditto.
1664. 1665. } Mr. John Wood, Ditto.
1670.—Wm. Wood, Burton, Ditto.
1660.—Robert Wood, Overseer of the Highways.
1662. { William Wood, and Jas Rimington. } Ditto.
1868.—Mr. John Wood, Ditto.
1669.—Mr. Wood, Burton, Ditto.
1629. { Henry Wood, and George Ellis, } Ditto.
1592.—Mr. Robert Wood, Provider (Overseer) for ye Poor."

Robert Wood had a family of at least thirteen children. John, his eldest son, died young. William, the second son and heir apparent, who was settled at Masborough, and was Clerk of the Peace for the West Riding, died before his father on Dec. 22, 1668, and was buried at Rotherham, having married Isabel, daughter of Nathaniel Eyre, of Bramley, and widow of John Rayney, of Tyers Hill, in

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Darfield, and their eldest son, Robert, succeeded his grandfather at Monk Bretton. John, the fifth son, was of Roystone. James, the sixth, and Henry, the seventh sons, both settled at Barnsley, and the latter founded a family there, which is now represented by Lord Halifax, to which we shall shortly allude. Dorothy, a daughter, married on the 14th February, 1653, Robert Ashton, Esq., of Stoney Middleton, as the following curious entry in the Roystone parish register will show:—

"1653. Publication was made within the parish church [of Roystone] three severall Lord's Dayes (viz.) the 1st, the 8th, and the 15th of January betwixt Robert Ashton, sonne of Robert Ashton, of Stone Midleton, in the county of Derby, gent., of the one parte, and Dorothie Wood, daughter of Robert Wood, of Munck Bretton, in this parish, gent., of the other parte, and with consent of parents, on both sides, according to the late act.

"Robert Ashton and Dorothie, in the above mentioned publication were marryed the fowerteenth day of February, according to the late act, before and by Darcy Wentworth [a Justice of the Peace]."

Robert Ashton and Dorothy Wood lived together 62 or 63 years. They had twelve children, and in the latter part of their lives this venerable couple seem to have removed to Middlewood Hall, in the parish of Darfield, where the former died on the 9th February, 1716, in the 85th year of his age, and the latter on March 21, 1721, aged 86. They were buried in Darfield Church, where on a plain but handsome stone affixed against one of the pillars of the south aisle is an inscription, said to be from the pen of their son, Dr. Charles Ashton, Master of Jesus

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College in 1701, and one of the most learned men of the age. *

The family seem to have been blessed with the patriarchal blessing, as will be seen from the following curious account of the baptism of one of their descendants :—

"On the 12th of July, 1744, was christened at Whittington, near Chesterfield, a son of Mr. Arthur Bulkley, of that place, and of Jane, his wife, when the following persons by their representatives were sponsors :

"Edward Downes, of Worth, in Cheshire, Esq., the infant's great, great, great, great uncle.

"Dr. Ashton, master of Jesus College, Cambridge, and his brother, Mr. Joseph Ashton, of Surrey-street, in the Strand, the infant's great, great, great uncles.

"Mrs. Elizabeth Wood, of Barnsley, in Yorkshire, the infant's great, great, great, great aunt.

---

* "The Reverend and Worthy Dr. Charles Ashton, Master of Jesus College in 1701, and Prebendary of Ely the same year. He was one of the most learned men of the age ; his great knowledge in ecclesiastical antiquities was excelled by none, and equalled by few ; as by his MS. remarks upon the Fathers, and corrections of the mistakes of translators will sufficiently appear. His critical skill in the writers of the classicks is well known to many persons now living. There were many valuable pieces of his but without his name."—*Nichol's Literary Anecdotes, vol. 4, published in his lifetime, pp.* 226.

Ibid, vol. 8, *pp.* 226 : "Dr. Charles Ashton. Of this distinguished scholar, whose name occurs so frequently, and who seems to have been too much neglected by our biographers, the following statement of the birth, family connections, &c., &c., may probably not be unacceptable :—

"Dr. Ashton was born at Bradway, a small hamlet in the parish of Norton, in Derbyshire, where his father resided many years. His baptism is recorded in the parish register of Norton, 25th May, 1665. He was respectably descended. His grandfather, Robert Ashton, of Stoney Middleton, Esq., was High Sheriff of the county of Derby in

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"Mrs. Jane Wainwright, of Middlewood Hall, in Darfield, the infant's great, great grandmother.*

"Mrs. Dorothy Green, of the same place, the infant's great grandmother. The infant has a mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and great, great grandmother, all now living."

Robert Wood, of Monk Bretton, the grandson of Robert, previously named, had, like his grandfather, a large family, having no fewer than eleven children. His eldest son, William, born in 1679, married Rebecca, daughter of John Rooke, of Barnsley; a daughter, Hephzibah, also marrying Daniel Rooke, of the same place. John, afterwards of Leeds, married Grace, the daughter of Ralph Thoresby, the distinguished antiquary, and had a son, called after his grandfather, who died unmarried. William, the eldest son, who died in 1735, was succeeded by another Robert Wood, of Monk Bretton, who married Frances, daughter of Gamaliel Milner, of Burton Grange, and had three sons and three daughters. William, the eldest son, his successor

---

the year in which his grandson was born. His father was an esquire at a time when that title was not so indiscriminately applied as at present; and it is thought was in the commission of the peace. His mother was Dorothy Wood, daughter of Robert Wood, of Monk Bretton, in the county of York, gent.; a family represented by Sir Francis Lindley Wood, of Hemsworth, Bart., and by Sir George Wood, Knt., one of the Barons of the Exchequer."

* "Mrs. Jane Wainwright, of Middlewood, in the ninetieth year of her age, bur. March 31, 1745."—*Darfield Parish Register.*

"Robert Wainwright, of Middlewood, gent., in his will, mentions his father-in-law—Robert Ashton—uncle, Mr. Henry Wood—three daughters, Dorothy, Jane, and Sarah—sister, Ann Usher—nephew, Thos. Ludlam—sister, Olive Rook [Rooke]. Dated Sep. 1, 1683."—*Add. MSS.* 24586, *pp.* 68.

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at Monk Bretton, died in 1776, unmarried; whilst Robert, a lieutenant in the 23rd Foot, and Gamaliel, also died without issue.

The three daughters who survived were co-heiresses, of whom Rebecca, the eldest, married in 1774, John Bingley, Esq., a captain of his Majesty's 65th and 93rd Regiment of Foot. He was in the engagement at Bunker's Hill, and died in 1807. Another married Mr. Thomas Gunning, a merchant, at Sheffield; and the third died unmarried. Mrs. Gunning, who had no issue, left her third part of the estate to her husband, in whose family it still remains. The unmarried daughter's share went to Mrs. Bingley, who on her death on the 7th March, 1829, bequeathed her two-thirds of the estate to her kinsman, Sir Francis Lindley Wood, of the Barnsley branch, who had become the head of the family.

To return to the two sons of Robert Wood, of Monk Bretton, who settled at Barnsley. They were both brought up to the law. James* married Grisseld, daughter of Willoughby Godfrey, Esq., of Edderthorpe. Godfrey, who was a person highly connected, attracted the attention of Dugdale, the antiquary, who in his almanack was found to have made a MS. note to the effect that "he was one skilled in arms and genealogies," a distinction which would apply to but few persons at that period.†

In Darfield Church is a remarkable monument, having twelve shields of the arms of Willoughby, and their

---

* "Mr. James Wood was buried ye 21st day of August, 1662."—*Barnsley Parish Register.*

† "Grizzella, daughter of Mr. Willoughby Godfrey, bap. Sep. 23, 1641."—*Darfield Parish Register.*

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connections, surrounding the following inscription :—"Here lyeth buried the body of Katherine, the daughter of William Willoughby, Esquire, eldest son of Charles Lord Willoughby, of Parham, wife to Joseph Godfrey, of Thonock, in the county of Lincoln, Esquire, 27 years one month and 21 days old; his widow 28 years and 2 days; died the 15th of August, An. Domini. 1658, aged about 75. Willoughby Godfrey, of Edderthorpe, son to her, having decently seen her interred, did erect this, as his last duty, with her due armories."

James Wood purchased on the 10th July, 1660, of John Waterhouse, Vicar of Darton, one moiety of the tithe of Barnsley, and in 1662, the year of his death, settled it on his younger son, George Wood. From him these tithes passed to the eldest branch of the family of Wood, and were enjoyed by Robert Wood, of Monk Bretton, gent., at the time of his death in 1761; and in 1768 the trustees under his will sold them to Mr. William Marsden, attorney, of Barnsley and Burntwood. James Wood died at Barnsley, and is mentioned by Torre in his *Testamentary Burials* as having made his will on the 23rd July, 1662, "giving his soul to God and his body to be buried in the quire of Barnsley Church." His widow, for her second husband married, on the 24th May, 1664, John Dutton, Vicar of Roystone.

Henry Wood, the other son of Robert Wood, who settled at Barnsley, was a Justice of the Peace for the West Riding, and the direct lineal ancestor of Lord Halifax. His family and descendants became intimately associated with Barnsley, and for more than a century were among its principal residents, and took an active part in the local events of their time.

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Henry Wood married three times, his third wife being Elizabeth, daughter of William Simpson, Esq., of Babworth Hall, by whom he had a large family. He bought lands in conjunction with Mr. Simpson, and also an estate in the Levels of Hatfield Chase.

Mr. Wood was one of those who exerted themselves in getting the Quarter Sessions restored to Barnsley at the close of the seventeenth century. These sessions had been held there from an early period, but from some cause or other they would appear to have been lost to the town, probably on account of a want of adequate accommodation. On the erection of a "Sessions Hall," which would very likely be the "Old Moot Hall," Mr. Wood, along with others, memorialised the West Riding Justices with a view to the Sessions being restored. Their efforts were successful, and Sessions continued to be held in Barnsley until the close of the last century.*

---

* Mr. Wood practised in Barnsley as an attorney. We find that he was employed by the parish of Roystone, as the following items in the churchwarden's accounts of that parish will show :—

	£	s.	d.
"1689. Paid in charges at sealing of the Feoffee deeds for ye parish land	00	03	06
,, Paid to Mr. Wood of Barnsley for drawing of ye said Feoffee deeds	02	00	00
1693. Paid Mr. Henry Wood for ye suit charges between ye parish and Mr. Dutton	05	00	00
1715. Paid in charges with Mr. Wood when he met the heads of the Parish	00	02	06"

On the ceiling of the North Chancel of Old St. Mary's Church was the following :—"H. W., 1714;" no doubt the initials of Henry Wood.

Jane, daughter of Henry Wood, married Richard Mawhood, a proctor of the Arches Court, and had Colonel Charles Mawhood of the 2nd Regiment of Foot. Eleanor, another daughter, married Colonel Wheatley, of Woolley.

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Mr. Henry Wood was one of the trustees of the Shaw Land Estate, and from an old lease we find that he was a party to letting to John Shippen, in 1716, a coal pit which belonged to the trust, and which was part of the estate, and situate in the Shaw lands. It is little more we can add of this notable townsman than that, in 1718, he, along with others, settled upon the Chapel of St. Mary lands yielding £15 per annum, at a time when £200 was granted by the Govenors of Queen Anne's Bounty; another £200 was granted in 1737 to meet a like benefaction from his brother, Francis Wood, and Joseph Croft. Mr. Wood died in 1720, and was buried in St. Mary's Church, where a monument of black marble bordered with grey, with the arms and crest of the family, was erected to his memory, with the following inscription:—"Near this place lies the body of Henry Wood, of this town, who married Elizabeth, daughter of William Simpson, of Babworth, Esquire; by whom he had issue 6 sons and 7 daughters, four of whom are here interred. He died May ye 4th, 1720, aged 75." "Here also lies the body of Henry Wood, Esq., his eldest son. He died April 18th, 1741. The above Elizabeth died 31st December, 1748, aged 81."

The parish register of burials at Barnsley has the following entries:—

"Mrs. Wood, ye wife of Mr. Hen. Wood, bur. May 7, 1686. [Dorothy Woodhead, of Woodseats, Mr. Hen. Wood's second wife.]

"Mrs. Elizabeth Wood, widow, bur. Jan. 5, 1748. [Mr. Hen. Wood's third wife.]

"Mr. Henry Wood, buried May 6, 1720.

"Mr. Henry Wood, bur. May 2, 1741."

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The fourth son of the first Henry Wood, of Barnsley, was Simpson Wood, a lieutenant in the Foot Guards, who died in April, 1746.

The second Henry Wood was also an attorney. In the *Journal of Mr. John Hobson, of Dodworth Green,* are the following entries relating to him :—

"1726, April 20.—At Barnsley, in company with Mr. Wood, of Barnsley, who showed me a copy of a decree out of Chancery, made in the time of Queen Elizabeth, for the payment of certain sums of money to the Vicar of Silkston, Curate of Cawthorn, and Curate of Barnsley, issuing out of one moiety of the tithe corn of Dodworth, then farmed of the Crown by John Hobson.

"1728, September 18.—At Barnsley with Mr. Henry Wood, lately made Justice of the Peace, and Clerk of Assize."

Mr. Wood, who had a large practice and was highly respected, died, as stated in his monumental inscription, on the 28th April, 1741, in the 50th year of his age, and was interred in Barnsley Church.

His younger brother, Francis, now became the head of the family at Barnsley, and he was perhaps more useful, active, and influential than any of his predecessors. He was a Deputy Lieutenant for Yorkshire; was well known in his day as "Justice Wood;" and occupied the family residence, which formed part of the present King's Head Hotel when Barnsley was a very unimportant and unattractive town, and when the Sough Dyke ran its open course across the bottom of Market Hill, and almost close past his residence. Its water was then of a more pellucid character—there were none of the polluting influences at work by which it is characterised

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at the present day, and Mr. Wood's residence at that day had some of the attractions of a country seat. It is described by Mr. Burland as having on the north side a private carriage road leading from Market Hill into what is usually designated the Back Lane, and terminating at a point between the present railway station and Beckett Square. This was called Justice Wood's Passage. An old cottage standing at the terminus had the dignified title of Justice Wood's Lodge. On the south, was an ornamental lawn, separated from Market Hill by a low stone wall.

In 1723, Francis Wood, of Barnsley, and Robert Wood, of Monk Bretton, and William Wood, his son and heir, were included among the Shaw Lands Trustees. In 1736, Francis Wood was one of the persons who took steps for the erection of the first workhouse in Barnsley, which was "at the public expense for the employment and maintenance of the poor," in accordance with a plan and estimates furnished by a John Brewer; and Mr. Francis Wood, Mr. John Deykin, Mr. Thomas Taylor, Mr. William Marsden, Mr. Joseph Clarke, Mr. Gervase Beckett, Mr. John Wilson, and Mr. William Wagstaffe, were desired to assist the overseers of the poor in carrying out their work; the meetings to be public and free for the admission of the inhabitants of the town. In fact, Mr. Wood might be said to be the leading business spirit in the town, taking the initiative in the management of the Shaw Trust—which at that day formed a fund which was drawn on for the maintenance of the poor in times of distress, the repair of the highways, and every other public movement connected with the town of Barnsley. On the election of Registrar of Deeds for the West Riding in 1734, Mr. Francis Wood was one of the

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candidates; the other candidates were Mr. Matthew Wentworth, Mr. Stanhope, and Mr. Yarborough, on which occasion Mr. Wentworth was elected, the other three retiring.

When the Pretender was putting forth his claim to the English throne, there was a subscription set on foot in Barnsley, when the following amounts were subscribed by the family of Wood :—

Elizabeth Wood	£5	5	0
Francis Wood	5	5	0
Robert Wood	5	5	0

The other principal subscribers being: John Cutler, £6 6s.; Elizabeth Leatham, £5 5s.; Wm. Marsden, £5 5s.; Richard Pickering, £5 5s.; Thos. Taylor, £5 5s.; John Wilson, £5 5s.; the smaller items amounting to £83 13s. 8d. At the County Election in 1741, when Cholmley Turner and George Fox were the candidates for Parliamentary representation, Francis Wood, who is described as "gentleman," voted for Cholmley Turner.

The following account which has come into our hands will show that Mr. Francis Wood's charges, as an attorney, were of a very moderate character :—

"*The Overseers of the Poor of Barnsley.*

"To Fran: Wood.

"To attendance at Pontefract Sessions, on acct. of Mr. Rooke's appeal, and Joseph Batty's daughter's child ...	0	13	4
"Paid Mr. Burton's Clerk for order to remove Hannah Morton and family to Dodworth.....	0	4	0

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"My attendance at Doncaster Sessions, being out all night	0	13	4
"April 12, 1748, Received the Same by me.	£1	10	8

* "FRAN: WOOD."

Francis Wood married firstly, Mary Dorothy, daughter of the Rev. Charles Palmer, D.D., Prebendary of York; and secondly, Rebecca, daughter of William Ellison, a member of an old and respected Barnsley family.† He died in 1775, in the 79th year of his age, and his second wife died on the 1st Nov., 1784, aged 72 years, to whose memory, on a brass plate in St. Mary's Church, is the following inscription:—

"Here lieth interred the body of Rebecca Wood, relict of the late Francis Wood, of Barnsley, Esq., and daughter of the late William Ellison, gent. She departed this life 4th Nov., 1784, in the 72nd year of her age." There are also

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* "1773.—Justice Wood, for examining E. Fletcher £0 1 0
1767.—Going to Justice Wood with Eliz. Lyddall. Warrant, examination, and my charge ... 0 3 0
1751, Dec. 25.—Pd. Mr. Wood for signing my book 0 0 6
1739.—To going to Justice Wood's and J. Wrightson's ..... 0 3 6"
—*Worsborough Town's Accounts.*

† "1761.—Francis Wood, Esq., of the psh of Silkstone, and Rebekah Ellison, of the psh aforesaid, married Dec. 1. Witnesses, Henry Cutler, William Clarke.

1775.—Sep. 1., Francis Wood, Esq., bur., aged 79.

1784.—Mrs. Rebekah Wood, widow, died 4th bur. 7th Nov., aged 72.

1780.—Charles Palmer, Esq., of Thurnsco Hall, died 28th, bur. 31st August."—*Barnsley Parish Register.*

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other memorials of the family, including one to "Mary Dorothea, Daughter of Francis Wood, Esq., who was interred here Sep. 2, 1759, lamented by her friends, aged 34 years and 2 months," also to John, her younger brother.

John was the youngest of the four sons of Francis Wood. He had entered the army under the patronage of General Wolfe. He had the command of a detached body of his Majesty's forces in North America under General Amherst, was slain there June 5, 1760, and closed a brilliant career at the early age of 25.

Henry, the eldest son, was of Jesus College, Cambridge. In early life he was chaplain to the English factory at Oporto. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Gore, Esq., of Horkstow, and sister of the wife of the third Earl Cowper. He was afterwards rector of Hemsworth, and purchased, in 1769, the manor and estate there, including Hemsworth Hall, which had belonged to the Bradshaw family. He was also vicar of Halifax, to which living he was inducted in 1776, and was an active magistrate of the West Riding. He died leaving no children in October, 1790, and was buried at Barnsley.* Francis, the second son, who was baptized at

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* "1790.—Rev. Henry Wood, D.D., died Oct. 27th, bur. Nov. 4, aged 64."—*Barnsley Parish Register.*

On the enclosure of the Barnsley Commons in 1777, Henry Wood, D.D., had awarded to him three allotments on Harbro' Hill and Pogmoor Common, amounting to ..... 20a. 3r. 29p.

Rebecca Wood, widow of Francis Wood, of Barnsley	8	3	27
And in the Common Field Allotments Henry Wood, D.D., had in Church Field and Old Mill Field	8	2	20
Rebecca Wood, her intake in Church Field, lately enclosed	2	3	12
And three more allotments in Church Field, making...	9	1	29

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Barnsley, Jan. 2, 1729, passed many years in the service of the East India Company at Canton. He married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Anthony Ewer, Esq., of the Lea, Hertford. The third son, Charles, was an eminent naval officer. Having passed the ordeal of his duties with increasing reputation, he became successively captain of the Terror Bomb, San Carlos, Hero, and Worcester, in all of which ships he highly distinguished himself by his conduct and gallantry, particularly in the Terror at St. Jago, in the San Carlos at Saldanha Bay, and the Hero and Worcester under Sir Edward Hughes. It was his fate to be frequently and severely wounded in action, and after having spent thirty-five years of his life in the naval service of his country, he terminated his career October 9, 1782, dying of the wounds he received in the engagement with Mons. Suffrein, the French Admiral, in the East Indies, the 3rd Sept. preceding, and was buried with military honours at Madras.

As some recognition of his services, his elder brother, Francis, was on the 22nd January, 1784, created a Baronet as Sir Francis Wood, of Barnsley, with remainder to the sons of his deceased brother, who were then young children.

Charles Wood married Caroline, daughter and heiress of Thomas Lacon Barker, Esq., of Otley. Bowling Hall, his seat, near Bradford, had been bequeathed to him by Thomas Pigot, Esq., whose ancestor, Elizabeth Simpson, had married Charles Wood's grandfather, Henry Wood, of Barnsley. Captain Wood had a family of five children. His eldest son, Francis Lindley Wood,* then a minor,

* Bowling Hall was purchased of Henry Savile by Francis Lindley, in 1668. He was the son of Wm. Lindley, a merchant at Hull. Francis was a barrister at Gray's Inn, and Vice Chamberlain of

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succeeded to the Bowling estate on his father's death, and to the baronetcy and the ancestral estates of the Wood family, at Barnsley, on the death of his uncle, the first Sir Francis Wood, without issue. Sir Francis Wood died at his house on Richmond Green, Surrey, on the 9th July, 1795, in the 65th year of his age. His lady died at the age of 64, in the following year, and both were buried in Barnsley Church.* Sir Francis and Lady Wood were the last of the numerous members of the family who were gathered to their fathers in Barnsley Church; and from this time the residential connection of the family with Barnsley ceased, and their residence on Market Hill was converted into an hostelry, under the sign of the King's Head Hotel, which, after various alterations, it still remains.

Sir Francis Lindley Wood was of Emanuel College, Cambridge, where he graduated as B.A. in 1793, and M.A. in 1796. He married Ann, eldest daughter and coheiress of Samuel Buck, Esq., Recorder of Leeds, and took up his residence at Hemsworth Hall, which had been the seat of his uncle, Dr. Wood.

The estate of Bowling, which has been described as a stately pile of buildings, in a very elevated

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Chester. Bowling Hall went to his relations, the Pigots, and on the death of Thomas Pigot without issue, he devised the estate to Charles Wood, a distant relation. His great grandmother had married for her second husband a Wood. From Charles Wood the manor of Bowling descended to Sir Francis Lindley Wood, his son, who sold the estate to John Sturges, Thomas Mason, and John Green Paley.

* "1795.—Sir Francis Wood, Baronet, died 9th, bur. 27th July, aged 65.

"1796.—Lady Eliz: Wood, relict of Sir Francis Wood, Baronet, died Nov.—bur. Dec. 7, age 64."—*Barnsley Parish Register.*

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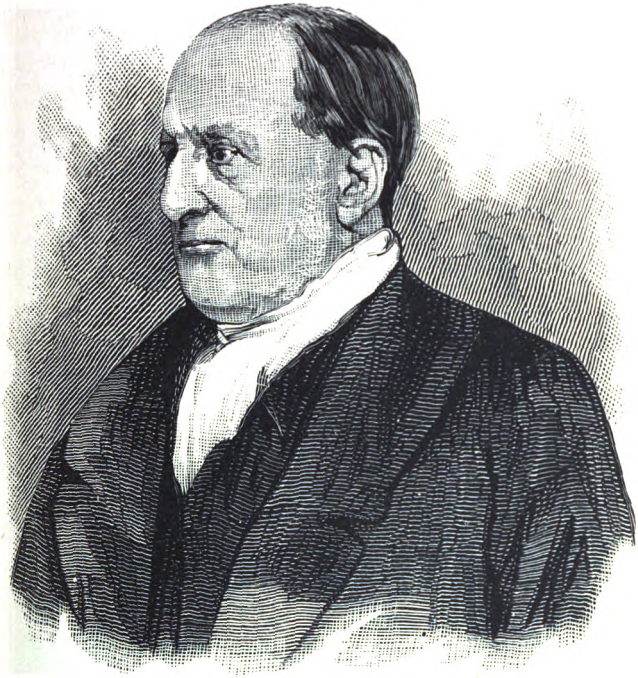

Sir Francis Lindley Wood, Bart., of Hemsworth.

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position, and overlooking an extensive tract of country, having become disfigured by ironworks and collieries, was sold by Sir Francis for upwards of £20,000, he having previously sold the minerals underneath the estate to the proprietors of the Bowling Iron Works, for more than that sum. The bankruptcy of Messrs. Wentworth, Chaloner, and Co., the eminent bankers, of Wakefield, necessitated the sale of the beautiful estate belonging to Godfrey Wentworth, Esq., at Hickleton, and this Sir Francis purchased in 1828, and went to reside there in 1830. It was reported that he gave £60,000 for the estate, and £4,000 for the timber thereon. Hickleton had been in the family of Wentworth of Woolley for many years, and was preferred by some of them to Woolley as a place of residence, on account of its situation and pure air. This estate has since been largely increased by judicious acquisitions purchased in the adjoining townships of Bolton and Barnborough. Hickleton has been almost entirely rebuilt, and is now a model and picturesque village.

Sir Francis Lindley Wood, although his residence was at Hemsworth, and afterwards at Hickleton, was bound to Barnsley by many ties, and took part in every movement which had the promotion of the interests of the town in view; attended public meetings and as a magistrate; and in other capacities, rendered great services to the town with which his ancestors had been so long associated. The Staincross Regiment of Volunteers was commanded by Walter Spencer Stanhope, Esq., and Sir Francis Wood was his lieutenant-colonel. One memorable event in the history of this regiment will not soon be forgotten. A

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false alarm of invasion was raised on the 5th August, 1805. The beacons were fired, and the men proceeded to Hemsworth, the seat of Sir Francis. Before they arrived there it had been discovered that the alarm was a false one. They were sumptuously entertained by Sir Francis, after which they returned home; each man, however, afterwards receiving a bounty of £2 and the thanks of the Ministers and Commons for their services.

After some time the volunteers were replaced by local militia, and Sir Francis Wood was appointed lieutenant-colonel of the Staincross and Osgoldcross Regiment. He was held in high regard by the men; and when the regiment was discontinued at the peace, they presented him with a very handsome sword. The colours of the regiment are deposited at Hickleton.

Sir Francis Lindley Wood was High Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1814. He was the Vice-Lieutenant of the West Riding in 1819, during the period when discontent prevailed so largely in the manufacturing districts, and many breaches of the peace occurred. It was at this time that the attempt of the Yeomanry at Manchester to force their way, by order of the magistrates, through the dense mass of persons assembled in front of the hustings, from which they were addressed by the agitators and delegates, led to such lamentable results. A similar meeting was held at Wakefield, but was dealt with in a very different manner by Sir Francis Wood. He arranged with Sir John Byng, then the general officer commanding in the northern district, that an adequate military force should be assembled at Wakefield. The troops were kept out of sight, but were placed in different large premises in the town, from

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whence they might at any moment be brought on to the ground if their services were required. The meeting passed off quietly, no disturbance took place, and the crowds peaceably dispersed to their homes. Sir Francis Wood, however, had received information that the delegates were to meet soon after at a house on Thornhill Lees, and he determined to arrest them there. It was, of course, essential to success that nothing should appear which could give warning of this intention, and that persons in the neighbourhood should have no knowledge of it. Thornhill Lees is a considerable distance from Barnsley, and in a different neighbourhood. It so happened that Mr. Offley Edmunds, an intimate personal friend of Sir F. Wood's, was captain of the Barnsley troop of Yeomanry; and Sir F. Wood asked him if he could find a sufficient number of the men of his troop who would assist in effecting the arrest. This was soon arranged, and a number of the troop volunteered for the purpose. On the appointed day, Sir Francis Wood, Mr. Edmunds, and the yeomen in plain clothes rode over to the place of meeting, unobserved, and surrounded the house where the delegates were assembled. They were completely surprised, offered no resistance, were arrested, put into post chaises, and sent off to York. The first intimation to the public of what had occurred, also announced that they were all safely lodged in York Castle. A numerous meeting of the freeholders of the county was held at York, in consequence of a requisition to the High Sheriff, signed by the Duke of Norfolk, by Earl Fitzwilliam, the Lord Lieutenant of the West Riding, and many other noblemen and gentlemen of the first importance, at which resolutions were passed demanding an inquiry into the

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proceedings at Manchester. In consequence of the part which he took at this meeting, Lord Fitzwilliam was dismissed from the Lord Lieutenancy of the West Riding; and Sir Francis took an active part at a meeting held at Wakefield to present to the noble Earl an address of sympathy and approbation. This meeting, which was most decided and unanimous in its proceedings, was attended by Lord Althorp, Lord Stourton, and a large body of gentry. After the great Reform Bill had passed the Commons, and the struggle had been renewed in the Lords and the Bill negatived by 199 to 158 votes, a great meeting was held at York, under the presidency of Sir Francis, as a demonstration in favour of the Bill, on which occasion Lord Milton and Mr. Fawkes, the leaders, were supported by the county members and a large body of influential persons from all parts of the county.

Sir Francis, indeed, was justly considered the father of reform in the West Riding of Yorkshire; and although he never aspired to a seat in Parliament, yet during a period of forty years he took a leading part in carrying out the principles of constitutional freedom, with a degree of sincerity, consistency, and faithfulness which can rarely find an equal. In the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts, and in the Abolition of Negro Slavery, he took a most prominent part.

In 1822, Sir Francis Wood, along with his eldest son, Charles Wood (now Lord Halifax), was appointed a Commissioner on the first Improvement Act being obtained for Barnsley. Sir Francis was a fine specimen of the English country gentleman. His kindness, his courtesy, his frankness, his warmheartedness, his cheerfulness, and his generosity

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evinced the goodness of his heart. He passed his time on his estates, attentive to the progress of agricultural improvement, and to the promotion of the comfort and prosperity of his numerous tenantry; he participated in the pleasures of the chase with that cheerfulness and buoyancy of feeling which threw a peculiar charm over every scene in which he participated. His dress was noted for its simplicity and freedom from ostentation, and seemed, as it were, to speak of the country life in which he was wont to participate; yet there shone through this plainness of costume the accomplished gentleman. Sir Francis died at Hickleton on the 31st December, 1846, and was buried there. By his will, which was dated 1843, his eldest son, Charles Wood, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Sir W. B. Cooke, were appointed executors. To his eldest son he left all his furniture, plate, pictures, diamonds, carriages, horses, cattle, and farming stock absolutely, as well as the residue of his property, after providing for annuities and other bequests, and directed an annuity of £48 to be paid during the lives of James Murgatroyd, the schoolmaster at Hemsworth, and of his wife and son James, and to the survivor; and he left legacies to each of his servants. Among his relatives and acquaintances to whom he left remembrances by will were the following:— His daughter, Ann Childers, his brother, Henry Wood, his brother-in-law, W. Busfield, his nephew, Charles Armstrong, and niece, Juliet Armstrong, and Admiral Sir Charles Richardson. To his friend John Parker, Esq., M.P. for Sheffield, he left a bequest of £200, and mourning rings to his nearest relatives. Sir Francis was succeeded in the baronetcy by his eldest son, Charles Wood, who has

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become one of the most distinguished men of the day. He was raised to the peerage as Viscount Halifax of Monk Bretton, in 1866, and has throughout his career filled many of the principal offices in the State. He was born December 20, 1800, and graduated as a Double First Class at Oriel College, Oxford, in 1821. He was first returned to Parliament in 1826 for the borough of Great Grimsby, and exchanged that seat for Wareham in 1831. After the passing of the Reform Bill, he was elected by the newly-created borough of Halifax, which he represented for many years. His first introduction to official life was in 1830, when he was appointed private secretary to Earl Grey, whose daughter, Lady Mary, he had married the previous year. He was shortly after nominated one of the Secretaries of the Treasury, but went out of office with his party in 1834. On the return of Lord Melbourne to power, he was appointed to the post of Secretary to the Admiralty, which he held for four years; but in 1839, following the lead of his brother-in-law, Lord Howick, he resigned his office, and quitted the ministry. Mr. Grant, in his *Random Recollections of the House of Commons*, 1835, pp. 233-5, says:—"Mr. Charles Wood, member for Halifax, and Secretary to the Board of Admiralty, took a very active part in the beginning of last session in opposing the government of Sir Robert Peel; since then he has spoken but little He is a young man, being only in his thirty-fifth year. He is married to a daughter of Earl Grey, which circumstance, and his being Secretary to the Treasury from 1832 to 1834 gave him a good deal of importance during that period in the house. . . . Mr. Wood is a good speaker. He has a fine, deep-toned, musical voice,

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but he sometimes mismanages its intonations. He speaks with great fluency, and never hesitates or is at a loss either for ideas or for words wherewith to express them. His language is elegant, but is evidently highly laboured when he makes a set speech. He is happy in reply, and is unquestionably a man of considerable talents. . . . . He is about the middle height, and well made, though somewhat slender. His face is angular, his features are regular, and his complexion of a rather darkish hue. The colour of his hair is of a deep brown."

Charles Wood, however, continued to give a general support to Lord Melbourne's Government, and when Lord John Russell was appointed Premier in 1846, he was made Chancellor of the Exchequer. He retired from office with his party in March, 1852, but on the formation of Lord Aberdeen's Ministry ten months later, Sir Charles (for he had now succeeded to the baronetcy) was appointed President of the Board of Control, and continued to hold this important post in the administration of Lord Palmerston till early in 1855, when he was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty, which office he held till 1858, when he resigned along with his chief, but returned to power with him in the following year, and filled the office of Secretary of State for India and President of the Indian Council until, from the effects of a serious accident,* he was compelled to resign

* Sir Charles Wood met with an accident whilst hunting with Lord Hawke's hounds just before Christmas, 1865, which had well-nigh proved fatal. Sir Charles, on the occasion, was one of the foremost in the field, and was in the act of leaning forward to open a gate, when his hat fell off; his horse being frightened, plunged violently, when its rider was thrown off, and fell against a stone wall. His head was

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in February, 1866. At this period *The Times*, in an eulogistic article on what might be considered the close of his long and distinguished political and official career, says: "The best proof of the solid merits of Sir Charles Wood's Administration will be found when we come to look for a successor. Where is the man possessed of that extent and variety of knowledge; that quickness, industry, and versatility; that acquaintance with matters financial, military, naval, judicial, and political, which will enable him to rule with a firm and unfaltering hand the mighty destinies of 150 millions of the human race. It is perhaps the weightiest trust that an English statesman can be charged with, and if it has attracted less notice than it deserved, it is mainly on account of the sterling ability and integrity with which it has been discharged. We know no one in the ranks of the present Government who can present himself with any confidence as a worthy successor to Sir Charles Wood in the Government of India. His character and influence are more deeply impressed on the destiny of that country than any of his predecessors, and the new era which he has founded in the East will entitle him, probably, to a more durable place in history than will be allotted to any man of more brilliant but less solid acquirements." Sir Charles Wood was in this year elevated to the peerage under the title of Vicount Halifax, of Monk Bretton, the place from which his ancestors had sprung. On the formation of Mr. Gladstone's Government in 1868, his lordship was offered the Vice-

injured and bled profusely, and his arm was also much hurt. He was at once removed from the field, and after comparative recovery from the shock to the system, it became necessary for him to resign the weighty and responsible office of Secretary for India.

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royalty of Ireland, which he declined, but in 1870 was appointed Lord Privy Seal. Of late years Lord Halifax, on account of his advanced age, has not taken so prominent a part in political life, but he has always been listened to with attention in the House, on account of the breadth and comprehensiveness of his views, and the perfect mastery of his subject. His lordship's eldest son, the Hon. Charles Lindley Wood, is a man of considerable note. After passing through Eton, he entered Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated with distinguished honours. At the outset of his more public life he was made Groom of the Bedchamber to the Prince of Wales, which post, however, from a high sense of honour, he resigned, on being appointed President of the English Church Union. He was born in 1839, and in 1869, married Lady Agnes Elizabeth Courteney, only daughter of the Earl of Devon. The second son, the Hon. Francis Lindley, a captain in the Royal Navy, died in 1873. The third son, the Hon. John Lindley, was *aide-de-camp* to Sir Garnet Wolseley in the Ashantee War, and also with Sir Garnet during his governorship of Cyprus, and served in the Zulu War in 1879. The Hon. Frederick George Lindley, the fourth son, a barrister-at-law, married in 1878, Lady Mary Susan Felicie Lindsay, daughter of the late Earl of Crawford and Balcarres.

Of his lordship's daughters, the Hon. Emily Charlotte, in 1863 married the late Hugo Francis Meynell Ingram, of Temple Newsam, near Leeds, and Hoar Cross, in Staffordshire; the Hon. Alice Louisa, in 1870, married the Hon. John Charles Dundas, brother to the Earl of Zetland, while the Hon. Blanche Edith, in 1876, married Captain the

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Hon. Henry William Corry, M.P., of the Coldstream Guards, third son of Lord Belmore. The motto of Lord Halifax is a most appropriate one—*Perseverando.*

Speaking at a civic banquet held at the King's Head Hotel a few years ago, Lord Halifax, referring to his family connection with Barnsley, said—"It is true I have a long and hereditary connection with the town of Barnsley. In Barnsley and its neighbourhood my family rose to the position which enabled me to take my place in the House of Commons, and ultimately to take my place in the House of Lords. I have heard an old and honoured friend of mine, the late Mr. Shepherd, talk of the days when old Justice Wood was no inconsiderable person in the town of Barnsley."

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THE HON. SIR GEORGE WOOD, BARON OF THE EXCHEQUER.

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No. II.

Sir George Wood, Baron of the Exchequer,

AND

The family of Wood, of Smithies.

HAVING given a brief sketch of the family of Wood, and its connection with this immediate district, we will now proceed to give the information we have been able to glean respecting Sir George Wood, a distinguished scion of that house, who was well known in the district as "Judge Wood," and who is remembered by persons still living. He descended from a younger branch of the Woods of Monk Bretton, which settled at Smithies at the beginning of the seventeenth century, the first of the family living there being John, the second son of George Wood, of "Burton Manor House." Burton was the appellation more generally applied to the township of Monk Bretton in early times; and Smithies also invariably appeared with the prefix "Burton" Smithies. The residence of the family at Smithies was the house close by the Old Corn Mill there—of late years converted

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into a paper mill—now belonging to the Barnsley Corporation, and which still shows some signs of having been a decent house in days gone by, though refronted and altered. This was the house on the estate which Sir George Wood left by will to his nephew, William Bayldon, a Quaker, formerly of Barnsley, and which was sold by his executors; and was Sir George Wood's ancestral estate, inherited from his father. On various parts of this property were formerly initials and dates relating to various members of the family by whom it had been erected, as for instance over the mill door was—

1617.
W.
G. I.

Over the malthouse door—

1631.
G. W.
(George Wood).

Over the garden door—

I. 1699. W.
(John Wood).

And on another of the outbuildings—

J S W 17—
(John and Susannah Wood).

In the Roystone parish register we find a curious entry in 1654, in the time of the Commonwealth, relating to the family, in one of the marriages of that period, when John Wood was married in accordance with the formula of the Act of Parliament then in vogue. The extract relating to this marriage will be interesting, not only from its connection with the family, but as showing the manner in which these

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Commonwealth marriages were solemnised. It is as follows :—

"1654.—John Wood, of Burton Smythes, and Susanna Pitt, hath been published three severall Lords Dayes in the P'sh. Church [of Roystone], according to the late Act of Parliament, and afterwards marrayage was solomynized the xxth day of February, before Richard Tolson, Esq. [of Wath], a Justice of the Peace, in the presence of Robert Pitt and George Warren, two credible witnesses, according to the said Act of Parliament in that case made and provided.—(Signed) RICH : TOLSON."

"According to the Act," marriages at this period had to be published on three successive Sundays in the parish church : or in the Market Place on three successive market days, as the parties might choose. Some preferred one and some the other of these modes of procedure; and many were the publications of banns made from the market cross at Barnsley, of which the following is an illustration :—

"1657.—Thomas Stringer and Elizabeth Wilson were three severall markett dayes published at the public markett crosse, in Barnsley, according to the late Act of Parliament, and marriage was afterwards solemnized betwixt the said Thomas and Elizabeth the xxvi day of November, according to ye Act." And again—

"1654.—John Wood, of Burton, and Mary Leadbeater, of Cudworth, in ye Parish of Roystone, were published by ye Register of Barnesley [Richard Wylde] upon three severall markitt dayes, and were maryed ye 29th day of June, by Darcy Wentworth."

In the same year we find, "George Wood, of Smythes, being slain, was buried the 7th day of November, 1654."

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This George Wood came to his death through violence, at St. Helen's Well, in the parish of Carlton. John Hobson, in his Diary (*Yorkshire Diaries, Surtees Society*,* lxv., p. 283) gives a traditionary account of the affair; and the Vicar of Roystone, in a letter to his son, Baron Wood, giving some genealogical information respecting his family, also alludes to this occurrence in the following manner :— "I look upon George Wood to be my father's uncle, and consequently my great uncle; and ye traditionary account, which I heard 64 years ago, in my infancy, confirms it, for I was frequently told that my uncle George was ye stoutest, well-built man in ye country, and he would challenge any-one at wrestling, pitching the iron, &c., &c.; that he was caressed by all ye nobility and gentry round about, and had liberty to hunt, shoot, and fish wherever he pleased; that he was an alert and eager sportsman; and as he was pursuing ye hounds on foot, through Sir Francis Wortley's gardens at St. Helen's Well, ye gardener struck him with a spade and fractured his skull, of which he immediately died; and (according to ye superstition of these times)

* Hobson gives a different version of this affair. After stating under date 19th August, 1728, that Mr. Northall, who had been 6[illegible] years in the employ of the Wortley family, and lived at St. Helen's Well, as gamekeeper, he continues : "At the same time there lived there a young woman, mother to Dame Walker, of Pilley. One Wood, of Burton Smithies, made love to her, whereupon two of Sir Francis Wortley's servants (one of them called Lapish) quarrelled with him, and one of them clove Wood's head with a spade in the court at St. Helen's. They were sent to York, and at the intercession of Sir Francis, came off. It was said that they pretended Wood was attempting to ravish her, so they cleared themselves by saying that what they did was in defence of the young woman."

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they said ye house was haunted, and no one durst live in it for years. I could tell you, too, what has been seen and heard, but strength of imagination can raise wonders."

In 1667, "John Wood, of Burton Smithies, was buried April ye 27th."* In 1692, George Wood, his successor, "was buried March ye ix." In 1690, George, the son of George Wood, of Smithies, was buried December ye xxi;" "Anne Wainwright, of Smithies, made oath ye 23rd day of December, before William Denton, curate of Barnsley, that he was buried onely in woollen, according to ye Act of Parliament."† In 1687, James, son of George Wood, of "Smithys," was also buried in woollen.

There are many other entries of members of the family, but we pass on to the year 1704, when we find that George, the son of Mr. John Wood, of Burton Smithies, was baptized. This was the father of Baron Wood, afterwards Vicar of Roystone, a living which he enjoyed for a period of 52 years. The father and mother of the vicar, and grandfather and grandmother of the Baron, we find died in 1707 and 1720 respectively, as will be seen from the following extracts:—"1707.—Susanna, ye wife of Mr. John Wood, of Burton Smithies, was buryed ye 1st day of June." "1720.—Mr. John Wood, of Burton Smithies, was buried May ye 29th."

The Vicar of Roystone, it will be seen, lost his mother

* In the Roystone Churchwardens' Accounts there is the entry—"1667. Received for ye buriall of John Wood, of Burton Smithies, in ye Church. 01*l.* 03*s.* 04*d.*"

† William Wood, of Hemsworth, clerk, Master of the Grammar School there, in his will, dated 1689, mentions his uncle, Thomas Wood, of Hemsworth, deceased, and George Wood, son of George Wood, of Smithies, his nephew.

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when only three years of age, and his father also, when he was comparatively young. He, however, received a good education, and was presented to the Vicarage of Roystone, which is in the gift of the Archbishop of York, when about 25 years of age. On the 17th June, 1740, he married Jane, daughter of John Matson, Esq., of the Manor House, Roystone, one of the principal families of gentry in the district, and they lived together happily for a period of 38 years.* His wife's mother, who was buried at Roystone, and to whose memory a tablet is erected in the church, was a daughter of Thomas Birkhead, of Wakefield, who appears on the Newland Court Rolls for at least 40 years as a juror, usually as first man on the panel. He was a most useful and active man in his time. The Manor House at Roystone was built by John Matson, who owned lands in Roystone which, in after years, were purchased, along with the Manor House, by Baron Wood.

The vicar had a large family—21 or 22 children—only six of whom grew up—George, Thomas, and John, and three daughters—and after living to a good old age, in peace and harmony with his parishioners, he died in 1781, as the following extracts will show :—

"The Rev. George Wood, upwards of 52 years vicar of

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* "1718.—Paid to Mr. Wm. Matson for renewing the deeds for Billingley and Cudworth, Sexton's Rents, and other business done by him for the parishioners 03*l.* 00*s.* 00*d.*"—*Roystone Town's Book.*

"Mr. John Matson, of Roystone, and Mrs. Elizabeth Wordsworth, of the New Laithes, were married Dec. 14, 1735."—*Roystone Parish Register.*

At the election for the county of York in 1741, George Wood, vicar of Roystone, and John Matson, his father-in-law, voted for Cholmley Turner.

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Royston, died June 8th, in his 77th year, was buried June 19th." His wife had predeceased him three years.

"1778, Jane, wife of George Wood, vicar of Royston, died of a complication of disorders, Oct. 19th, and was buried Oct. 20th."

In Roystone Church is a tablet, with the following inscription :—

"In memory of George Wood, A.B., who died 17th June, 1781, aged 76. Also Jane, his wife, who died 19th Oct., 1778, aged 56; also of four children, John, Francis, Joel, and William, who all died in their infancy."

A second John among the vicar's sons emigrated to America, and became a merchant in East Florida. The day before his departure from Roystone he planted a tree in the grounds adjoining the vicarage, but now (1883) forming part of the churchyard, which is still growing there. He settled in America and had a son, George, who came to England, and whom Baron Wood, his uncle, sent to Cambridge University, and would have adopted, but he shortened his days by dissipation. John Wood married a daughter of Mr. Johnson, of Savannah, in Georgia, and had also a daughter, who married a Mr. Pratt, some of whose descendants are still living in America.

Thomas, another of the vicar's sons, was of Moor Grange, in the East Riding of Yorkshire. He was at one time a merchant, and took out cargoes of goods for sale to China and other countries. He was afterwards in the East India Company's service, and having a sunstroke, came home incapacitated for business.

George, the judge, who forms the principal feature in this sketch, was the vicar's eldest son. The date of his birth, as

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given in Foss's *Lives of the Judges*, 1740, is incorrect, as will be seen from the following extract from the parish register at Roystone :—

"1743.4. George, the son of Mr. George Wood, vicar of Royston, was born the 13th of February, and bap. March the 14th."

Instead of being 81 years of age, as stated by Foss, the Baron would be only 78 at the time of his death. George Wood was educated at the Roystone Grammar School, and at the usual age was articled to Mr. West, of Cawthorne, a noted lawyer of his day, who had a large country practice, and had among his clients some of the principal families of gentry in his district.* George Wood had for fellow-clerks, Wm. Elmhirst, Esq., of Ouslethwaite, who died in 1821, and Mr. Jonas Clarke, of Barnsley. It has been said that the Baron was articled to Mr. West, of Barnsley, but this is incorrect. Nevertheless there was a Mr. Jonathan West, an

* "April 29th, 1795. Jonathan West, of Cawthorne, gentleman, and barrister-at-law, died. He was the son of Jonathan and Dorothy West, of Norcroft, and his remains were interred in Cawthorne Churchyard, in a spot of his own selection. On the 15th June, 1793, died Jonathan West, of Barnsley, aged 42. He was the son of Thomas and Ann West, of Norcroft. In that part of Barnsley now known as Beckett-square stood his residence. This house still exists, and may be known by its large size. A family named Hirst afterwards lived many years in part of it. In Lawyer West's time it had a grass lawn in front, walled round, and a kitchen-garden behind. The house was approached by an old-fashioned bridge, which crossed the small river Sough, better known now as "Sough Dyke," which was then a clear and picturesque stream. When Lawyer West left this residence he occupied the house vacated by Mr. Leatham (now occupied by Mr. Bamforth), at the top of Old Mill Lane. The remains of Lawyer West were interred at Cawthorne."—*Burland's Notes.*

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attorney, at Barnsley, who resided and had his offices in Beckett-square. This Jonathan West, of Barnsley, was a relation of the Jonathan West of Cawthorne, and it is possible that there might be transactions and communications between the two offices, which might often bring George Wood to Barnsley to this establishment, and thus give rise to the report. While at Cawthorne, George Wood seems to have got into high favour with Mr. West, who uniformly bore the most flattering testimony to his abilities and industry, frequently holding him up, in the latter respect, as an example worthy the imitation of his fellow-clerks. His attention to the duties of his office was most assiduous, and his propensity to close study, at this period, gave strong indications that his character was by no means of an ordinary cast. Mr. West seems to have possessed a considerable share of discernment; for he is said to have frequently prognosticated that "George Wood would one day be a judge;" and it was at his urgent request that his pupil was at length induced to exchange the monotonous drudgery of a provincial solicitor's office for the metropolis, where his prospects would be brighter, and his talents more congenially exerted and better appreciated, and with what success our readers will learn. On his arrival in London he pursued the usual course of preparation at the Middle Temple, and afterwards commenced as a special pleader on his own account. He eventually got into full practice, and established such a reputation that pupils flocked to him. In the latter part of the last century a student intended for the common law courts was expected to work at least two years in the office of a special pleader, copying precedents, drawing declarations and pleas, and having an opportunity of seeing the run of his master's business,

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paying two or three hundred guineas for the course of study. The labours of "Pupils in Chambers" are thus noticed in the *Pleader's Guide*, 1796 :—

> "And, better to improve your taste,
> Are by your parents' fondness plac'd
> Amongst the blest, the chosen few
> (Blest if their happiness they knew),
> Who for three hundred guineas paid
> To some great master of the trade,
> Have at his rooms by *special* favour
> His leave to use their best endeavour,
> By drawing pleas from nine till four,
> To earn him twice three hundred more ;
> And after dinner may repair
> To foresaid rooms, and then and there
> Have 'foresaid leave, from five till ten,
> To draw th' aforesaid pleas again.'"

George Wood was afterwards designated by Campbell, in his *Lives of the Chief Justices*, "the great master of special pleading, who had initiated into his art the most eminent lawyers of that generation. Among these was Mr. Law, afterwards Lord Ellenborough, who by great interest obtained a desk with Wood, and he could," says Campbell, "soon recite the 'money counts' as readily as his favourite poem. He continued working very hard as a special pleading pupil for two years. During this period he not only grew to be a great favourite with his instructor, but the attorneys who frequented Mr. Wood's chambers became acquainted with his assiduity and skill. The pleadings settled by Mr. Wood, and the opinions signed by him, were generally written in a very large, bold, pot hook hand, which they discovered to be Mr. Law's; and although he was too independent and honourable to resort to any evil arts for the purpose of ingratiating

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himself, and he was chargeable rather with hauteur than with huggery, he sometimes got into conversation with the attorneys, and he raised in their minds a very high opinion of his proficiency as well as of his industry."

"He studied the mysteries of special pleading for two years, and we may form a lively opinion of his habits and his sentiments at this period from a letter which, at the conclusion of a sitting of many hours in Mr. Wood's chambers, he wrote to his friend Coxe, then a private tutor to a young nobleman, in which his untiring industry and ambition are evinced.

"Another distinguished pupil of George Wood's was Charles Abbot, afterwards Lord Tenterden, who, resolved to carry away a good pennyworth for the fee which he paid, worked night and day; he seemed intuitively to catch an accurate knowledge of all the most abstruse mysteries of the *Doctrina Placitandi*, and he was supposed more rapidly to have qualified himself to practise than any man before or since. The great model of perfection in this line, in giving an account of his *status pupillaris* under the eminent special pleader, Tom Tewksbury, sings:

> 'Three years I sat his smoky room in,
> Pens, paper, ink and pounce consuming.'

"But at the end of one year Abbot was told that he could gain nothing more by quill driving under an instructor. He commenced special pleading on his own account, and soon became famous."

The Hon. Thomas Erskine, afterwards Lord Erskine, whom Lord Brougham calls the greatest advocate, as well as the first forensic orator who ever appeared in any age, was a pupil of Mr. Wood's, and was ever mentioned by him with strong expressions of a very natural pride.

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"John Williams, afterwards the eminent Serjeant at Law, annotator of *Saunders's Reports*, and leader of the Oxford Circuit, was early initiated into the mysteries of George Wood's office. In the love of precedents both master and pupil luxuriated. What the master might have done on this score we can only conjecture. It must have been on a large scale. But we are told that Williams collected twelve folio volumes of these forms, which he wrote in an excellent and clear hand, and which are still in the possession of his descendants. To these he added conveyancing precedents. They were the more valuable as there were no Chittys nor Bythewoods in those days. Every practitioner depended on his own MS. resources. It is not to be wondered at that these men of many pleadings amalgamated. Wood treated the promising student with much regard, and Williams' sagacity enabled him to reverence one who could deal easily with so many tangled webs."

"These more than Eleusinian mysteries have since been much unravelled through the labours of such men as Brougham; but still forensic history is bound to the statement, that whilst there might not have been more than from four to six special pleaders when Wood flourished, a number quite equal to fifty now annually avail themselves of the Government certificate, and several of them earn a lucrative income with an eye to future prosperity at the bar. So strong was the intimacy between the 'Doctor and Student,' that it became a rule and habit for the latter to dine every Easter Monday with Baron Wood.*"

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* *Lives of Eminent Serjeants at Law*, by H. W. Woolrych. Vol. ii., pp. 682-3.

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The distinguished Mr. Scarlett, afterwards Lord Abinger, the friend of Romilly, in 1790 entered Mr. Wood's chambers, and in his autobiography thus speaks of his fellow pupils and Mr. Wood :—"Among his pupils at that time were Mr. Lushington, an intimate friend of mine, who was afterwards a judge at Ceylon, and having resigned that office, was appointed Master of the Crown Office, under his uncle Lord Ellenborough ; Mr. Trench, since Lord Clancarty, who had been a fellow commoner of St. John's, and one of my acquaintance in the University ; and Mr. Sturges Bourne, who was afterwards Secretary of State for the Home Department, under Mr. Canning's administration, a gentleman of distinguished talent and polished manners. I had not been long in the office before Mr. Wood discovered that I had some proficiency, and understood more of the business than a mere tyro. He did not take much trouble with his pupils, but left them to learn, by the alterations he made in their drafts, the rules and principles of the science. I soon found, however, that he had acquired some confidence in me. He sent me the difficult cases to deal with, and occasionally, when I had no precedent exactly in point, and took my own course, he would send for me into his own chamber, and explain why he made certain alterations, and refer me to cases where I might find a principle, though not an exact precedent. The facility and confidence I had acquired by my previous reading enabled me to despatch the business put into my hands more rapidly than my colleagues ; and I believe I may say with truth that, after I had been three months in the office, the greater part of the whole business was done by myself. I was called to the bar in the month of June,

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1791, some months before the year of my pupilage expired. From that time, though I continued to do all the work sent to me by Mr. Wood, I ceased to visit his office, and surrendered my place to George Canning, with whom I then formed a slight acquaintance, little imagining that I should one day become his intimate friend and zealous supporter. I did not know an attorney by sight, with the exception of two or three whom I had seen occasionally in Wood's office, but whose names were altogether unknown to me. I took the Northern Circuit. My first circuit produced nothing but two or three accidental briefs, which fell to me as the junior, and one other which was due to my industry in Wood's office. It was a very complicated case, in which I had been trusted to draw the pleadings. As soon as I arrived in Carlisle, a brief was brought to me, with a statement that the agent had been instructed to seek some special pleader on the circuit who could give assistance to Mr. Wood in the cause, and that he had returned for answer that no one could do it better than the gentleman who had prepared the pleadings under Mr. Wood's inspection. I entertained some doubts whether this was a legitimate mode of acquiring business, but these were soon removed by my old master, Wood, who, upon my representing them to him, said that nothing could be more honourable to me."

In fact, so great was Mr. Wood's celebrity as a master of the science, that when he was called to the Bar he was engaged on the part of the Crown in all the State prosecutions, commencing in December, 1792. He joined the Northern Circuit, and was as successful in his practice in the country as he was in Westminster Hall. Campbell,

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in his *Lives of the Chief Justices*, vol. 6, p. 100, says of him, "The most distinguished instructor in this line at that time, 1773-5, was George Wood, on whom Lord Mansfield made the celebrated special pleading joke about his horse demurring when he should have gone to the country." In a note to this, Campbell adds, "George, though a subtle pleader, was very ignorant of *horse flesh*, and had been cruelly cheated in the purchase of a horse which he intended to ride the circuit. He brought an action on the warranty that the horse was a good roadster and free from vice." At the trial before Lord Mansfield, it appeared that when the plaintiff mounted at the stables in London, with the intention of proceeding to Barnet, nothing could induce the animal to move forward a single step. On hearing this evidence, the Chief Justice, with much gravity, exclaimed, "Who would have supposed that Mr. Wood's horse would have *demurred* when he ought to have *gone to the country?*" "Any attempt to explain this excellent joke to *lay gents*," says Campbell, "would be vain, and to *lawyers* would be superfluous." Upon the Northern Circuit in former days, there was nothing more remarkable than the terms of intimacy in which the counsel who went it, lived together. Mr. Wood and Mr. Holroyd (both of whom were afterwards raised to the Bench) when crossing Finchley Common on their way to join the Northern Circuit, were stopped by a "gentleman" of fashionable appearance, who rode up to the side of the carriage and begged to know "what o'clock it was." Favourably impressed by the stranger's appearance and tone of voice, Wood pulled out his valuable gold repeater, when the highwayman, presenting a pistol and putting it on the cock,

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said coolly, "*As you have* a watch, be kind enough to give it me. so that I may not have occasion to trouble you again about the time." To demur was impossible; the lawyer, therefore, who had met his disaster by *going to the country*, meekly submitted to circumstances and surrendered the watch. For the loss of an excellent gold repeater he cared little, but he winced under the banter of his professional brethren, who, long after the occurrence, used to smile with malicious significance as they accosted him with, "What's the time, Wood?" At a subsequent period of the same assizes, some articles were produced in court that had been taken on some thief or other. Amongst them was a very large silver watch—a regular "turnip." One of the counsel raised great laughter by leaning over to Mr. Wood and remarking audibly, "By the way, brother Wood, *you* lost a watch, did you not? Is *this* yours, do you think?" handing him over for inspection the great silver one. The reader may imagine the amusement the sally provoked. This anecdote is a true one; and so annoyed was Mr. Wood at being robbed that he would never again have a gold watch. To the day of his death, we are told by a relation of his, he wore a pinchbeck one. "No thief should ever get a gold watch from him again," he said.

Alluding to his friendship with Mr. Holroyd, Mr. Greenwood, in a poem entitled *The Bar, with Sketches of Eminent Judges, Barristers, &c., &c.*, 1826, p. 118, has the following :—

> "In solid worth, and learning near akin,
> Rough as two pines without, as sweet within,
> Holroyd with mind like glass without a flaw,
> And Wood a 'neat compendium' of the law,

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(A compound image he, like that of old,*
Fashioned with feet of clay—but head of gold !)
True as the season came 'pair'd off' from town,
And here in friendly union posted down,
So, as is sung or said in verse or prose,
Brentford's two kings march'd smelling at one rose."

Mr. Bayldon, who died not long ago at the advanced age of 94, at Horbury, for many years a solicitor in York, who knew Baron Wood personally, and has often seen him in court, tells a good story about his being determined to have a case finished before the court rose (for he wanted to go on to Durham to open the assize there next day), and not only sitting himself, but keeping all the trumpet men and halberdiers in court also; for, as the representative of His Majesty, he would not dispense with any due state and ceremony. It was a famous Yorkshire will case, and it was long past midnight before the jury could agree. At last they did agree, and the court broke up about three o'clock in the morning. The good citizens of York, awoke out of their sleep by the trumpeters as the Baron's procession came through the streets at this unearthly hour, for the moment thought that a judgment day of a far more fearful character had come upon them ! Mr. Bayldon says the Baron's frightening the people of York was laughed about for long afterwards.

Baron Wood, though a grave, stern man, could be jocular on occasions. Once, when as a barrister attending York Assizes, he was terribly bitten at his lodgings by bugs. He captured some to show to the landlady next morning. Of

* Feet of clay—but head of gold ! refers to the gout with which the baron was much afflicted.

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course she avowed there were no such things in her house. However, Mr. Wood showed her those he had caught. "Well," she exclaimed, "I am sure I did not know I had a *single* one about the place." "Indeed ma'am," replied Mr. Wood, "and I fancy you are right, for I fully believe they are all married, and have very large families."

The Baron amassed a large fortune; the bulk of his money he made while a barrister, and especially from his "opinions" and Chamber practice generally (especially in questions of tithes, which in those days were very litigious matters), for the Baron was no speaker; he was essentially a lawyer, and his epitaph in the triforium of the Temple Church, which we give, is a very appropriate one; yet he had a good deal of property which came to him by inheritance. Amongst others, a relative of his mother's, a Rev. Thomas Matson, vicar of Hunmanby, near Filey, left him several thousand pounds. This Mr. Matson once in his lifetime wanted a few hundred pounds. He went among his relatives, including the Baron's father, and asked them to lend it him. They declined. Mr. George Wood, then a rising young barrister, taking a more hopeful view of the case than his father and other relatives did, lent him the money; and when the Vicar of Hunmanby died he left nearly the whole of his property to the future Baron; stating that he did so because he was the only one who would help him when he needed help.

A character so distinguished for legal erudition was not likely to remain long neglected by those whose duty it was to supply the vacancies on the bench; but it has been said that Mr. Wood would have been made a judge years before he was, but that his political opinions were "not

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quite satisfactory" to Lord Eldon, who in those days "ruled the roost," and when at last his long-deferred promotion came, it was solely owing to his ability and merit as a lawyer. He was made a Baron of the Exchequer in April, 1807, and knighted soon after. He performed his judicial functions for nearly sixteen years, with great advantage to the community, and with all the credit to himself which was anticipated from his previous career.*

Baron Wood always selected (and as he was a Yorkshireman the other judges who had a prior right of choice by seniority, kindly gave way to him in this matter) the Northern Circuit when the Judges went on the summer assize. When the circuit was concluded, Lancaster being the last place, the Baron always came and spent about two months amongst his Yorkshire relatives and tenants. Four or five weeks of this time were always spent by him and Lady Wood at Roystone, at the Manor House, where his favourite sister, Susannah, who had married Mr. Richard Bayldon, lived. From thence he used to visit and dine with Earl Fitzwilliam, Sir Francis Wood, of Hemsworth (his kinsman), and other grandees of the neighbourhood. His stay in Roystone was the event of the year for that village, where he was held in wonderful reverence and awe. He "put them all to rights," as the saying is, when he came amongst them, and settled many a dispute "out of court!" His word was "law," and no mistake! Persons still living remember the

* Mr. Heath Bennett, in his *Select Sketches from the Note Books of a Law Reporter*, p. 5, gives among the more prominent judges the names of Barons Graham, Hobart, Thompson, and Wood, called at the Bar "The Four Boxes." These four were "Chatter-box," "Snuff-box," "Band-box," and "Tinder-box."

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Baron, who was an eminently social and agreeable man, and fondly cherished early recollections of his native village.*

One old lady now living tells us that she still retains a most vivid recollection of the Baron as he appeared during his visits to the Manor House. There he sat in a recess in the room gazing with interest on the lively scene after dancing commenced, and when it was drawing late he would pull out his watch—the famous "pinch-beck"—and exclaim, "What's the clock?" which was a hint that it was time for the proceedings to terminate. Among some relics of the Baron's which came to Roystone after his death were his cocked hat, wig, and robes, which were long regarded as articles of great curiosity.

That the Baron was a man of kind heart and fine feelings is evidenced by the following fact, well known in the family. He could not sleep at all on the night after he had, for the first time, as judge, to pass sentence of death on a criminal. His mind was so affected by it that he was all the night long restless and sleepless, thinking of the poor wretch he had had to "sentence." The Baron had by no means a prepossessing appearance or address. A diminutive stature, dark complexion, and uncommonly flat features, were what nature had assigned him. He retained much of the characteristic bluntness, as well as honesty, of the Yorkshireman. As to intellectual peculiarities, his judgment was more perfect than his perception. In taking notes he was

* "Oct. 9, 1819. Baron Wood and his lady arrived at Roystone, the place of his Lordship's nativity, where they spent a few days. His Lordship was in much better health than he had been for some time back. On leaving Roystone his Lordship proceeded to town, preparatory to the duties of the ensuing Michaelmas term."—*Local paper.*

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rather slow, and did not, at least very soon, evince that he was in possession of the clue to an abstruse question. His studies were well directed and perseveringly pursued. He was always considered a very sound judge, and his decisions were always treated with the utmost respect by the whole judicial bench.

Baron Wood was not, like Mr. Justice Best, and Mr. Justice Parke, shorn of a dazzling attribute by a removal from the Bar. He was never an orator, and his dialect was strongly provincial. Until the period of his elevation to the Bench, he practised nearly altogether as Junior Counsel, and in arguing special matters before the Courts. He had for several years laboured under repeated attacks of the gout, and the infirmities of age advanced rapidly upon him. He did not, however, sink under the burden which he began to feel so oppressive, but generally afforded to all parties a patient hearing, and always an impartial trial.

The Baron, who had gained for himself amongst his brethren the honourable appellation of *The Father of the English Bar*, was a sound lawyer, and had many judicial virtues, among which were great patience and attention to the cases that came under his review, and an inflexible determination to resist any contagion from the prejudices of others. It was this eminently useful quality which saved the life of a man convicted capitally at Durham for a robbery and murder, of which it was afterwards proved that he was not guilty. The prejudice, as well as the apparent proof, ran strong against him; but Baron Wood was not satisfied with the evidence, and (though he stood almost alone in that opinion, of all who had heard the trial, so strong was the prejudice of the proof) he, happily for the cause of justice,

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saved the innocent man from execution, to the scarcely disguised dissatisfaction of some of the most distinguished individuals in that part of the country, who were naturally inflamed by the enormity of the crime alleged against the supposed criminal.

Leigh Hunt, the editor of the *Examiner* newspaper, was on one occasion tried before Lord Ellenborough on a charge of libel, which was based on an article against flogging in the army, which had appeared in the *Examiner*. He was acquitted, the acquittal having been mainly brought about by the eloquence of Mr. Brougham; but in spite of Mr. Brougham's efforts, another client was convicted at Lincoln, before Baron Wood, for publishing the same libel in a country newspaper.*

Samuel Bamford, who was tried along with a number of other Radicals, at the Lancaster Assizes, in September, 1819, before Baron Wood, thus describes him in his *Passages in the Life of a Radical*:—"Before us, and somewhat elevated, sat the judge, a man of venerable years, clothed in a long robe of bright scarlet and ermine, with a flowing white wig, and a countenance of rough, blunt mould, and with a look like that of a surly old lion, at once stern, wilful, and magnanimous; this was the venerable Baron Wood."

Henry Crabb Robinson, in his *Reminiscences*, vol. ii., pp. 40-41, thus alludes to the Baron:—"At the Spring Assizes we had Baron Wood, a judge who was remarkable for his popular feelings. He was praised by some of our Radicals for being always *against* the Church and King. In one case he exhibited a very strong *moral* feeling, which, perhaps,

* *Lives of the Chief Justices*, Campbell, vol. iii., p. 201.

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betrayed him to an excess. He had a very honourable dislike to prosecutions or actions on the Game Laws, and this led him to make use of a strong expedient to defeat two actions. A and B had gone out sporting together. The plaintiff brought two actions, and in the action against B called A to prove the sporting by B, and meant to call B to prove the case against A. This was apparent—indeed avowed. But the Baron interposed, when the witness objected to answer a question that *tended* to convict himself. A squabble arising between the counsel, the Baron said to the witness, 'I do not ask you whether you ever went out sporting with the defendant, because, if I did, you would very properly refuse to answer. But I ask you this: Except at a time when you might have been sporting with the defendant, did you ever see him sport?' 'Certainly not, my Lord.' 'Of course you did not.' Then the Baron laughed heartily, and non-suited the plaintiff. No motion was made to set this nonsuit aside."

At the July Assizes, at York, in 1820, Baron Wood earned for himself the title of "The Righteous Judge," and it is to his credit that the manner in which he conducted the trials of the "State prisoners," as they were pompously called, contributed not a little to the settlement of disturbed minds, and to disabuse ill-informed persons of the prejudices they had entertained against the tribunals of the country. The effect was that Baron Wood was on this occasion the object of general admiration, and his conduct was highly applauded. At this time the law would appear to have been strained, and every effort made by the authorities to get a conviction. An overdrawn account of some disturbances had appeared in a local paper, and this was copied into the Treasury journals

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on the eve of the assizes, and under these circumstances well might his lordship caution the jury to not allow their minds to be influenced by anything they had read or heard. The evidence previously taken was produced but tardily, and the penetrating eye of Baron Wood soon discovered that one witness—Samuel Wimpenny—had sworn one thing before the magistrates and another before the court, and this contradiction on a point of essential importance was very properly deemed by his lordship fatal to the witness's testimony. The trials excited great interest throughout the country; the court was densely crowded, Lord Fitzwilliam, the lord-lieutenant of the West Riding, being present during the proceedings. Out of twenty-four persons prosecuted eleven were discharged, no bills being found against them; ten were found not guilty, one liberated on bail, leaving only two of the whole number in confinement, and these had been detained without trial by authority of State warrants under the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. The jury, after a quarter of an hour's deliberation, found the prisoners not guilty, and his lordship, in discharging them, cautioned them as to their future conduct; and the result showed that whatever might have been the disposition of any of the accused before they were sent to York, it was evident they had availed themselves of the advice of "The Righteous Judge," for when set at liberty, on their return to Huddersfield there was no indication of tumult and excess, although they were met by immense numbers of persons.

To show the judicial changes which have taken place since 1820, we may state that at the assizes at York in that year, Baron Wood passed sentence of death on eleven persons, including one for rape, five for burglary, two for

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highway robbery, one for horse stealing, and one for robbery in a dwelling-house. How many, or whether any of these persons were really executed, we cannot say.

In 1823 Baron Wood retired from the Bench, and was succeeded by Mr. Serjeant Hullock. He died on the 7th July, 1824, seventeen months after his retirement, leaving behind him a fortune which the newspapers of the day estimated at nearly £300,000, acquired by great exertion and labour in his profession, the bulk of which devolved upon his relatives in the neighbourhood of Roystone, comprising chiefly his sisters, and nephews, and nieces. The remains of his lordship were removed from his house in Bedford Square for interment in the vault belonging to the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, in the Temple Church. In the triforium of that edifice, among many memorials to distinguished worth, is a marble tablet, with the following inscription to his memory :—

"Sacred to the memory of
SIR GEORGE WOOD, KNIGHT,
late one of the Barons
of His Majesty's Court of Exchequer,
who died on the 7th day of July,
in the year of our Lord, 1824,
Having, during the course
of a long professional life
been particularly distinguished
for his profound knowledge
of the principles and practice
of the law of England."

The burial register of the Temple Church also contains the following entry :—

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"WOOD.—Sir George Wood Knt: heretofore one of the Barons of His Majesty's Court of Exchequer, and formerly one of the Masters of the Bench of the Honble Society of the Middle Temple, died 6th July, 1824, and was buried in the Middle Temple vault on the 14th of the same month, aged 81 years, by W. H. Rowlett, reader."

The above is a true copy made this 31st day of May, 1872, by me,

Chas. J. Vaughan, D.D.,
Master of the Temple.

To his widow he bequeathed the dividends of £50,000 three per cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities for life, with his house in Bedford Square, and with the use of all his furniture, plate, china, pictures, and books (except law books, State Trials, *Domesday Book*, Dugdales' *Monasticon*, Grose's *Antiquities*, and other books of antiquities, and these he bequeathed to Mr. Wm. Allen, of Malton, who had married one of his nieces), hoping his widow would throughout continue her usual kindness to her sister Reeve. In the event of the death or marriage of his widow, he bequeathed to Mrs. Reeve £3,500 Bank Annuities for life. To his brother, John Wood, the Baron left an annuity of £500, to be charged upon his estate at Mowthorpe, and in the event of John's death, £200 a year to his (John's) widow, and £200 to his daughter. To his sister, Susannah Bayldon, £100 a year, to be paid out of the estate devised to her son, John Bayldon; after her death the said annuity to go to Mr. William Allen, who had married testator's late niece, Susannah Bayldon. On the death of his brother John, testator leaves to his

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nephew, Daniel Bayldon, and Mr. Thos. Cook (the latter of whom had married his (testator's) niece, (Frances or Fanny Bayldon), £100 each per annum, for life.

And, subject to the said annuities, testator bequeathed all his messuages, lands, tenements, tithes, and hereditaments at Mowthorpe, Duggleby, Kirkby, Grindalyth, etc., unto his nephews, Thomas Bayldon and John Bayldon, and their heirs for ever, to be equally divided between them as tenants in common.

All testator's messuages, cottages, mills, lands, tenements, and hereditaments at Monk Bretton, otherwise Burton, and Barnsley, and all leasehold property he held under the trustees of the Sheffield Hospital, and all his shares in the Barnsley Canal Navigation, he left to William Bayldon absolutely, subject to a rent charge of £100 a year to George Bayldon (William's brother).

The Manor of Roystone, and other land and property there situate, including the allotment lately purchased of the Duchy of Lancaster (excepting the land which his brother-in-law, John Stocks, occupied), testator left to his brother-in-law, Richard Bayldon, and Susannah, his wife, and the longer liver of them, and after their death to their son, John Bayldon, for ever, subject to £1,000, which he gives to his (John's) brother, Richard.

The land in Roystone, occupied by his brother-in-law, John Stocks, testator bequeathed to him and his wife, and the longer liver, afterwards to their son, Joseph Bayldon.

His estates in Cudworth, as well as those purchased of Mr. Wentworth, and the Commissioners of his Majesty's Woods and Forests, and land revenues, testator bequeathed to John Guest, and Jane, his wife.

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To his nephew, John Stocks (who had managed the Baron's farm at Moor Grange), he left his estates there, chargeable with an annuity of £200 to his (John's) mother, and £200 a year to Joseph Stocks, and his wife; to the above John Stocks he also left all his household goods, stock, farming utensils, etc., at Moor Grange.

The Baron also left the large sum of £60,000 three per cent. Bank Annuities for the payment of the following legacies:—£10,000 to his niece, Louisa Bayldon; £5,000 to his brother John's daughter; £5,000 to his nephew, Daniel Bayldon; £5,000 to his niece, Fanny Cook; £5,000 to his niece, Caroline Baker; £5,000 to his niece, Elizabeth Bayldon; £5,000 to the children of his late niece, Susannah Allen; £6,000 to his niece, Abigail Stocks; £5,000 to his nephew, Joseph Stocks; and £4,000 residue to his niece, Elizabeth Hawkins.

To his servants testator left the following annuities:—Thomas Day, £45 a year for life; John Hadrell, £25 a year; Sarah Taylor, £30 a year; Sarah Goaler, £30 a year; to the undermaid, who should be living with him at the time of his death, a legacy of £19 19s. 0d.; to Mary Arksey, who cooked for him at Moor Grange, £10 a year; all his servants to be furnished with mourning.

Baron Wood also left the following additional legacies:—To his brother, John Wood, £1,000; to his sister Bayldon, £500; sister Stocks, £500; Thomas Cook, £500; William Allen, £500; nephew John Bayldon, £500; nephew Joseph Stocks, £500; nephew Thomas Bayldon, £200; Godfrey Sykes, Esq., £200; and to James Underhill Raynold, £200. He also released his brother, John Wood, from the payment of any money owing from him

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to the Estate on his (testator's) death; a similar release from debts being given in several other cases.

To deserving objects of charity in Roystone the testator bequeathed a sum which was not specified, but was to be of such amount and proportion as Richard Bayldon, and his wife, and the future owners of the house where they resided—the Manor House—should think fit. All the residue and remainder of the personal estate which should fall in on the death of his wife, or others, to be applied as follows:—£100 each to his executors, and then equally among his nephews and nieces as follows:—His brother John's daughter—Frances or Fanny Cook, and Daniel Bayldon (daughter and son of testator's sister Jane); Louisa Bayldon, Caroline Baker, Elizabeth and Richard Bayldon (daughters and son of his sister, Susannah Bayldon); Elizabeth Hawkins, Abigail Stocks, and Joseph Stocks (daughters and son of his sister, Elizabeth Stocks), or such of them as might be living at testator's death.

If testator died in London, or its neighbourhood, he wished to be buried in the Temple Church, and that a monument or tablet should be erected therein to his memory, if the Treasurer and Benchers of the Temple so pleased; but if he died in the country, it was his desire to be buried in the Church at Roystone, where a handsome monument was to be erected to his memory, and in that case he gave to the Vicar of Roystone £20, and to the Clerk £10.

In conclusion, testator appointed his nephews, Thomas Bayldon and William Bayldon, and Mr. William Allen, his executors. The will was dated Nov. 29th, 1823, and

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signed in the presence of J. Bailey, James Burrough, and J. Raynolds, the last-named being described as clerk to the Honourable Justice Parke.

In a codicil, dated 8th December in the same year, testator revokes the appointment of William Allen as one of his executors, and cancels the legacy bequeathed to him, leaving it to Allen's children.

Another codicil, dated 10th May, 1824, is added. In this, testator thinking his two sisters would be too scantily provided for, left them a further sum of £200 a year, to be charged upon the interest or dividends of the stock left to his wife. Revokes the legacy to Sarah Taylor, who had ceased to be his servant, and increases Sarah Goaler's to £40 a year.

In another codicil, dated July 16th, 1824, he gives to John Alexander Wallace, if he should marry his (testator's) niece, Louisa Bayldon (and he thinks they are engaged), all his books of Precedent Cases and Special Pleadings, and all his Law Library and books of Antiquities.

The Baron's faculties would appear to have failed seriously before his retirement, as will be seen from the following remarks made in the speech of Mr. Scarlett, his former pupil, afterwards Lord Abinger, in a debate upon the amount of the judges' salaries, especially their retiring allowance :—"The late Baron Wood," he said, "who was an excellent judge, a profound lawyer, and a person of great sagacity, at a very advanced age retired from the Northern Circuit, and, instead of quitting the profession altogether, was offered a seat in the Court of Exchequer, which he could not, under the circumstances, well refuse. The consequence was, however, ultimately painful, for the Baron's

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infirmities grew upon him so fast as to render it most unpleasant to himself, to the Bar, and to the public to have the civil administration of justice conducted by him, he having at length lost one eye, and the use of both ears."*

Baron Wood printed for private circulation some valuable "Observations on Tithes and Tithe Law," discussing the subject with great shrewdness and ability. This treatise was afterwards published, and the principle he recommended for the arrangement of the change was partially adopted in the Bill for the Commutation of Tithes. In the *Life of Sir Samuel Romilly*, vol. 2, pp. 461-2 and pp. 487-8 are the following references to Baron Wood and the Tithes Bill :—

"*June 19th*, 1817. Curwen moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law with respect to tithes. He understands little of the matter himself; and what he is doing is at the suggestion of Baron Wood, who has already drawn for him the bill which he intends to bring in. The principal objects of it are, as I understand them, to authorise the receiving usage as evidence of a real composition, where the deed itself cannot be produced, and as evidence of exemptions or discharges from tithes claimed under dissolved monasteries; and to allow of presumptions of grants and conveyances of tithes from long usage as against lay impropriators. I spoke in support of the bill as far as I understood these to be its objects.† Sir William Scott,

* *Hansard*, New Series, vol. 13, p. 802.

† "A few days after this, Baron Wood sent me a little tract he has printed, entitled, *Observations on Tithes and Tithe Law*, with a note, in which he told me that he hoped I should support the bill in all its future stages."—*Life of Sir Samuel Romilly*, vol. 2, pp. 461-2.

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who, as member for the University of Oxford, conceives himself bound to watch with great jealousy every innovation with respect to ecclesiastical property, expressed great doubt about the bill, and reserved to himself a right to oppose it in its future stages, though he acquiesced in its being brought in.

"*March 16th*, 1818. On the motion for the second reading of the bill for the amendment of the law relating to tithes, which has been drawn by Baron Wood, and has been brought into the House of Commons by Mr. Curwen, I spoke in support of the bill. I expressed my approbation of the general objects of the bill, though I stated that I objected to the clause respecting the trying of issues upon moduses, and that I thought there were other clauses which might require alteration. The only speakers against the bill were Sir Wm. Scott and Mr. Peel, the two members for the University of Oxford; Mr. Smyth, one of the members for the University of Cambridge; and Mr. Wetherell. The Attorney and Solicitor-General, however, and all the Ministerial members voted against the bill, and accordingly it was lost. It was a very thin House, there being only 15 for the bill, and 44 against it." The bill was, however, subsequently passed. Lord Brougham, in his *Sketches of Statesmen*, alludes to Baron Wood's publication on tithes, and says it would be difficult to name any composition superior in conciseness and felicity of diction to this work, which appeared in the shape of two tracts.*

The original portrait of the Baron, by Lonsdale, a very good one, seems to have been lost sight of. Mr. Hailstone

* *Sketches of Statesmen*, Third Series, vol. 3, p. 225.

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tried to get it for the Leeds Exhibition of Yorkshire Worthies, but could not find it. It was, however, engraved by Hodgetts, and published in 1824; and copies of the portrait may occasionally be met with. There is also an admirable likeness of the Baron from a sketch by Mr. John Hardy, barrister, of Heath, near Wakefield, who, to beguile the tedium of the court was in the habit of "hitting off" sketches of the judges, or other notable persons present. Two of these done with a pen were picked up in court—viz., Baron Wood and Mr. Justice Bayley, and etched by an artist at York.

On the first Improvement Act being obtained for Barnsley, in 1822, Sir George Wood was appointed one of the Commissioners.

Baron Wood's three surviving sisters, we may state, were Jane, born 13th June, 1749, who married Mr. John Bayldon, of Applehaigh and Hollinghurst; Susannah, born 29th June, 1754, married Mr. Richard Bayldon, of Roystone; and Elizabeth, born 1759, married Mr. John Stocks, of Roystone. It was to these sisters and their immediate descendants to whom the bulk of the wealth of the Baron devolved, and his estates were situated at Roystone, Cudworth, Smithies, and other places. He had a considerable estate of some 2200 acres of land at Mowthorpe, on the Wolds of Yorkshire, on which the family of Kirby, ancestors on the mother's side of Mr. F. W. Addey, of Cudworth, lived for a considerable time. What is not a little notable is the fact that of all this large property the only portion remaining in the families to whom it was bequeathed is the house and land at Cudworth, long occupied by the late Mr. F. W. Addey. This is the property of

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Miss Edith Guest, of Barnsley, to whose grandmother, his niece, Sir George Wood left it. One of the Baron's nieces, and she the one that knew him best, having lived with him many years in London—Mrs. Wallace—died lately at Colchester; a very clever woman, although between 80 and 90 years of age. The following is a notice of the Baron's last surviving sister, which appeared at the time of her death in 1843 :—

"Died, on Jany. 17th, 1843, at Roystone, near Barnsley, in her 89th year, Susannah, relict of the late Richd. Bayldon, and sister to the late Sir George Wood, one of the Barons of the Exchequer. Possessed of a large share of that mental energy which characterised her distinguished brother, and endowed with those excellencies which still adorn many of the representatives of departed generations, her family and kindred have to deplore the loss of a revered relative, while the poor must long cherish her memory with grateful recollection." Mrs. Bayldon gave a silver salver, to be used at the communion table in Roystone Church.

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No. III.

Sir John Beckett, Bart., and the Beckett Family.

PERHAPS no existing family has been longer, more closely, or more influentially connected with Barnsley than that of Beckett. For more than a century and a half its members have been among the leading men, and mixed up with all the principal local events of their time. If any improvement wanted making, if trustees were to be appointed to any of our local charities, or any inquiry had to be made into their administration; if any movement was set on foot with a view to relieve the poor in times of distress, or the promotion of any other public object was taken in hand, we always find the name of Beckett associated with it. The inhabitants of Barnsley seem to have reposed the greatest confidence in anything with which any of its members had to do. The Becketts were for a long period among the principal local bankers to the community, and at all times, particularly in times of panic and commercial distress, were ready to afford

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aid on the most liberal scale, if they could do so with any degree of safety.*

From a humble beginning its representatives have risen to be amongst the most wealthy and influential in the county of York, and for high commercial worth and integrity are surpassed by none. If we go back to the year 1660 or 1670, we find Daniel Beckett living as a humble tradesman in the town of Barnsley, and he is the lineal ancestor of the opulent family of later generations. That he was a highly respectable tradesman we have every reason to believe. He married Margaret, daughter of Mr. Francis Usher, mercer, of Barnsley, a member of a contemporary family of local note. Daniel died, and was buried on the 26th March, 1682; and his wife was buried on the 11th December, 1696. They left behind them Gervase, who was baptized on the 8th July, 1669, and married on the 30th December, 1701, to Eleanor, daughter of Jonas Clarke, of Barnsley. The results of this

* Most of the country banks were first established about the latter end of the last or the earlier portion of the present century. Before that time, few, if any, with regularly constituted partnerships and places of business, existed. Generally, the principal innholders, drapers, grocers, or other tradesmen, performed such functions of the banker as were then required, or at least were available. They would take in money on deposit at interest from those who could trust them, and these funds they employed in their own business, or in discounting bills of exchange for others. Transactions of this character increasing by degrees with gradual advancement of trade, induced the operators in them to devote their attention to the more systematic mode of conducting the business of bankers; and from such like beginnings as these have arisen the various establishments we have seen, and continue to see, flourishing throughout the country. The date of 1750 is on the notes of the Leeds Bank of Beckett and Co., but that was many years anterior to the time when John Beckett became a partner in that establishment.

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union were the following children, whose names we give from the parish register :—

"Gervas, son of Gervas Beckit, bap. Dec. 25, 1702.
John, son of Gervas Beckitt, bap. Nov. 4, 1704.
Daniell, son of Gervase Beckitt, bap. Sep. 26, 1706.
Joseph, son of Gervas Becket, bap. July 29, 1708.
Mary, daughter of Gervase Becket, bap. April 2, 1711.
Samuel, son of Gervas Becket, bap. — 1713.
Jonas, son of Gervas Becket, bap. Nov. 29, 1716.
Eleanor, dau. of Gervas Becket, bap. Feb. 12, 1718–19."

Gervase the father,* whose will was proved at York, Nov. 24, 1718, and who is therein called a wire drawer,† was buried a fortnight after the baptism of his last child, and at a time when his family were all young, as we find from the following entry, in the burial register :—"Gervase Becket, housholder, buried Feb. 26, 1718-19." ‡ Gervase Beckett

* Will of Gervas Beckett, of Barnsley, wire-drawer, dated March 6, 1715 :—My wife, Eleanor—eldest son, Gervas Beckett—John Beckett, second son—Daniel Beckett, third son—Joseph Beckett, fourth son—Mary Beckett, daughter—Jonas Beckett, youngest son—wife, executrix—mentions her mother, Mary Clarke. Signed, Gervis Beckett. Proved at York.

† The wire trade was of some antiquity at Barnsley, which town, we are told, upwards of two centuries ago, excelled every other place in the kingdom for the manufacture of this article, which was mainly attributable to the ingenuity of the workmen, combined with the materials used. Richard Ashton, Simon Parker, William Bower, 1653 ; Thomas Booth, Godfrey Ashton, Leonard Bower, Richard Cooper, 1654; Godfrey Windle, 1655, Samuel Senior, 1777 ; John Frudd, 1785; and John Fostard, 1796, are names severally occurring under the description of wire-drawers.

‡ Mr. W. Beckett Denison has in his possession a large two-handled earthenware jar, on which is inscribed :—"Gervis Beckett, 1714."

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was a "housholder," and a small freeholder, for we find him taking part in a movement, in 1714, which had for its object the augmenting of the living of St. Mary's Church. The provision for the maintenance of a minister at Barnsley at that period amounted to the small sum of £21 18s. per annum. Gervase Beckett, and a great number of other freeholders, supported a memorial to give the minister, whose name was Thomas Peighen, power to enclose from the commons thirty acres of land with a view to increasing the stipend, and in this they were successful, and what is called the Church land, on the south side of Park Road, was then set apart for that purpose. But that Gervase Beckett was only a small freeholder, we may be assured from the place which his name occupies in the list, and from the way in which it is entered in the parish register, for the social standing of persons in former generations was very carefully taken into account, and indicated in these entries with "Yeoman," "Mr." "Gentleman," "Esquire," etc., and the laws of society in this respect were very different and far more reliable than those of modern times. The widow of Gervase Beckett survived him thirty-nine years, and was buried on the 28th April, 1756. Their eldest son, the second Gervase, was married by license, at St. Mary's Church, to Sarah Ellison, 9th April, 1729. He seems to have been properous in business, and raised himself considerably in the social scale. He was one of the Trustees of the Shaw Lands, and along with his brother John, took an active part in their administration. When some rather extensive improvements were made to St. Mary's Church in 1747, Mr. Gervase Beckett was one of the churchwardens. In a list of trustees of the Shaw Lands, dated 1723, he is described as of Barnsley,

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yeoman, and at the time of his decease he seems to have so grown in social position that he is honoured with the following entry in the register of burials :—

"Gervase Beckett, gent., buried Jan. 12, 1766."

He left two daughters, his only issue, one of whom, Eleanor, it may be worthy to note, in 1750 married Henry Cutler, one of the numerous poor and dispersed descendants of the distinguished Sir Gervase Cutler, of Stainborough Hall, who died in Pontefract Castle during the siege. Henry Cutler settled in Barnsley, lived in the House in Shambles Street long occupied by the late Mr. William Peckett, had a family there, and for many years performed the duties of a good citizen in Barnsley. Daniel Beckett, the third son of Gervase Beckett, was an apothecary and medical practitioner. "Dr. Beckett," as he was called, was the "Town's doctor" in 1738, and the writer has seen some accounts for his attendance on, and medicine supplied to the poor, which are given in items in detail at considerable length. In 1748, he had entered into partnership with Mr. John Hall, and they carried on business under the firm of Beckett and Hall.

Daniel Beckett, in 1748, married Ann, daughter of Joseph Wells, of Shafton, gent.* (who was a benefactor to the parish of Felkirk), and afterwards went to reside at

* Joseph Wells, of Shafton, gent. Will dated June 7, 1749. Wife, two daughters—Ann, wife of Mr. Daniel Beckett, and Elizabeth, wife of David Stephenson, gent.—my brother, John Marshall—my sister, Martha Wells, etc. Proved at York, 7th December, 1750.

"1748. Mr. Beckit and Mrs. Ann Wells, married.
1749. Nov. 27, Sarah, wife of Mr. Joseph Wells, bur.
1750. Oct. 1, Mr. Joseph Wells, bur.
1751. Dec. 13 Mr. Daniel Beckit, bur."

—*Felkirk Parish Register.*

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Shafton, where he died on the 13th Dec., 1751, in the 46th year of his age.* In his monumental inscription, at Felkirk, it is said, "His eminent abilities in the practice of physic, joined with a benevolent and humane disposition, rendered him highly valuable in life, and greatly lamented at death."

But the perpetuator of the Beckett family was John Beckett, the second son of Gervase. He was father to two worthy sons, John, afterwards Sir John Beckett, of Leeds, and Joseph Beckett, of Barnsley; and grandfather to three other baronets, Sir John, Sir Thomas, and Sir Edmund Beckett, and also to Mr. Staniforth Beckett.

John Beckett, the progenitor of these distinguished men, started out in life in the very humble capacity of porter to a grocers' company which was established in Barnsley, and occupied premises where the Corn Exchange now stands, and transacted a large business. "He was gifted with industry, thrift, and foresight," says Mr. Burland; and when the company of grocers vacated the premises, John Beckett took them. The goods with which he opened the shop—he used to say—came in a hogshead, so that his original stock was extremely small. After carrying on the grocery business for a few years, he purchased the premises he had entered upon with some difficulty as tenant, and

* Daniel Beckett, of Shafton, apothecary. Will dated, Nov. 23, 1751—appoints wife Ann, Executrix—Sarah Beckett, and Ellen, wife of Henry Cutler (late Ellen Beckett), daughters of my brother Gervase. Brothers Samuel and Joseph. Proved 16th Oct., 1752.

In 1741, at the county election, when Cholmley Turner and George Fox were candidates, John Beckett voted for Cholmley Turner, and Daniel Beckett and Gervase Beckett for George Fox.

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acquired the dignity of a freeholder, and wealth flowed into his coffers until he was fairly satisfied, and he bethought him of retiring from business, and built the house in Church Street so long occupied by the family, and there lived in privacy during the remainder of his days. The masons' wages he paid, it is said, for the most part in copper; and the edifice was popularly known as "Copper Hall."* John Beckett would appear to have been married twice, although in the pedigrees of the family which have been compiled and published, only one of his marriages is given. His first marriage took place in 1731-2, but he had soon to mourn the loss of his wife, as we shall see from the following extracts from a journal kept by Mr. John Hobson, of Dodworth Green—a journal which contains many interesting entries relating to the men and customs of that day.†

"1731-2, Feb. 26. Mr. Beckett, the grocer, was married on Thursday, to Mary, the sister of Mr. Crookes, of Burton."

"1732, July 11. This morning died Mary, sister of the late Mr. George Crookes, and wife of Mr. Beckett, of Barnsley, of a consumption; and is to be buried at Roystone. It is observable that she, her brother George, and another brother, at Sheffield, are all dead in ten weeks time." In the Roystone Register, confirmatory of the entry in this journal, is the following :—

* In the Overseers' Accounts for Barnsley, in 1745-6, occurs the item: "In copper from John Beckett for Shaw rents £4 16s. 10d."

† The original MS. is in the possession of Mr. J. W. Pashley, of Morton Hall, near Gainsborough, and it was printed by the Surtees Society in 1877, forming vol. 65 of their publications, *Yorkshire Diaries*, pp. 244-330. It was edited by Mr. Charles Jackson, of Doncaster, assisted by Mr. Wilkinson, of Barnsley.

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"1732. Mary, the wife of Mr. John Becket, of Barnsley, was buried July ye 13th."

Mr. Beckett, after continuing a widower for eight years, married Elizabeth Wilson. The marriage licence was dated 11th December, 1740, and was granted to John Beckett, of Barnsley, grocer, aged 36, and Elizabeth Wilson, of Barnsley, spinster, aged 23, to marry in the chapel of Hoyland, or the church of Wath or Ecclesfield.

The family of Wilson was contemporary with that of Beckett, but was, we are told, at that time in a much better position in life. Elizabeth Wilson was the sister of William Wilson, the founder of the linen trade at Barnsley. The Wilsons were Quakers, and it was contrary to the wishes of her family that Elizabeth should bestow her hand upon John Beckett, who did not belong to their faith, and she for a time became to some extent alienated from her family. The two, however, were suitably mated, and whatever they took in hand prospered exceedingly. John Beckett rose rapidly in wealth and importance in his native town, and he and his brother Gervase became two of its leading men. Whatever had to be done these two brothers took a part in doing; and they were mixed up in all the local affairs of their day. John Beckett and Elizabeth Wilson had a family of seven children; and these children were trained with great care in habits of perseverance and industry. Whatever John Beckett did he strove to do well; he built on the soundest foundations, and on these in succeeding generations the Beckett's superstructure has been raised until it has culminated in what it is. The following are the baptisms of their children :—

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"Elizabeth, daughter of John Beckett, bap. Dec. 4th, 1741.

"John, son of John Beckett, bap. June 2nd, 1743. [Afterwards Sir John Beckett, Bart.]

Mary, dau. of John Beckett, bap. April 3rd, 1745.

William, son of John Beckett, bap. Jan. 29th, 1748.

Joseph, son of John Beckett, bap. Oct. 6th. 1751.

Hellen, dau. of Mr. John Beckett, bap. March 19th, 1755."

Besides the above there was another son, Gervase, who died young. William and Elizabeth also died in their infancy. The year after his brother Gervase's death we find the following:—"Mr. John Beckett, buried July 3, 1767." John Beckett in his will, which is dated 29th September, 1762, describes himself as "grocer." It was made by Jonathan West, attorney, of Cawthorne, and witnessed by him (Jonathan West) and George Wood, jun., afterwards Baron of the Exchequer. He leaves his wife for her life, "All that newly-erected dwellinghouse standing at the north end of Kirkgate (now Church Street) with the messuage and croft at the east side thereof." This is the house previously referred to as built by Mr. Beckett (now inhabited by Mr. Craik), and popularly designated "Copper Hall." It was afterwards occupied by Mr. Joseph Beckett, son of John Beckett, and subsequently by Mr. Staniforth Beckett, son of Mr. Joseph Beckett, until comparatively modern times. Mr. John Beckett left his widow £150 to be paid immediately after his death, and £200 to be paid after the expiration of one year, and an annuity to be charged upon his estates in Barnsley. He charged the house above named with a sum not exceeding £500, which his widow might devise to one or more of his four surviving children,

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and in the event of her making no such devise, £250 of such amount to go to Mary and £250 to Eleanor his daughters, and further legacies of £500 each to Mary and Eleanor to be paid out of the estates bequeathed to his son, Joseph Beckett, in Barnsley, and his estate in Great Berrington, purchased of his brother-in-law, Mr. Matthew Wilson. He also leaves to his son, Joseph Beckett, all his lands and tenements at Upton, North Elmsall, South Kirkby, and Badsworth, and all the "rest, residue, and remainder" to his son, John Beckett, whom he makes sole executor. Of his surviving children "Miss Hellen [Eleanor] Beckett, spinster, was buried July 18th, 1773." His widow survived him 36 years, dying on the 18th of January, 1803.* The only survivors of Mr. Beckett's family were now John, Joseph, and Mary. John, the eldest son, settled in business at Leeds, where he soon became one of its most distinguished inhabitants, and laid the foundation of a family which has ever been closely identified with the interests of that prosperous borough, having, without any great advantages of birth, risen by the force of his own talents, and his sound commercial principles to an elevated rank in society, and become allied to some of the first families in the kingdom. In corporate offices he was chosen an assistant 29th September, 1773, Alderman, 6th February, 1775, and Mayor, 29th September, 1775; and both as chief magistrate of the borough, and one of the Justices of the Peace for the West Riding of Yorkshire, was distinguished for his legal knowledge, his firm but impartial administration of the laws, and his successful exertions in

* "On Monday, 18th Jan., 1803, in the 88th year of her age, much respected, Mrs. Beckett, of Barnsley, mother to John Beckett, of this town, banker."—*Leeds Mercury*, Jan. 30th, 1803.

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times of difficulty in preserving tranquillity, and enforcing the duties of good subjects to the Government of the country. During a long course of years John Beckett was principal partner in the Leeds Bank, and in that capacity rendered at all times the most essential services to the trade and inhabitants of Leeds and its vicinity. However sudden or trying the vicissitudes of the commercial world, the stability of "Beckett's Bank" was never suspected; but it was always in such emergencies the refuge of honest men, and the liberal supporter of the mercantile and manufacturing interests. The active part taken by Mr. Beckett in putting down the Luddite riots won for him golden opinions, and led to his being rewarded with the dignity of Baronet, which was conferred upon him the 2nd March, 1813.* For some years in the latter part of his life, Sir John did not take an active part in business, but lived in retirement at his seat at Gledhow, where he died on the 18th September, 1826, at the advanced age of 84 years, and was buried on the 23rd of the same month in the family vault in the Parish Church of St. John's, Leeds, attended thither by a long and mournful

* For the purpose of guarding against error, it may not be inopportune here to direct cautionary attention to a certain publication in 1876, styled, *Sketches of Hull Celebrities*, at page 286 of which a gross attempt is made, on the part of the writer, or compiler, to pass off an account of one "Sir John Beckett, 1695," who is there stated to have come from Meanwood, near Leeds, on an electioneering adventure to Hull. To those who are, or can otherwise become, well acquainted with the genealogical history of the family of Beckett, of Yorkshire, it may be hardly needful to say that the whole paragraph is a pure fabrication, and nothing else, and that no such person ever existed. There never was a Sir John Beckett prior to the Baronet so created in 1813, and Meanwood was the property or residence of that gentleman's son, Mr. William Beckett, long after that date.

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cavalcade, including some of the members of the Corporation of Leeds, and their chief magistrate. As the funeral approached its destination, great crowds of people of all classes joined it, as a mark of respect to the memory of the honourable Baronet, who, when living, had been the object of their highest esteem. On entering the churchyard the coffin was followed by the Right Hon. Sir John Beckett, the successor to the Baronetcy, and five other of deceased's sons as chief mourners; his brother, Joseph Beckett, Esq., of Barnsley; his son-in-law, General Marriott, Richard Fountayne Wilson, Esq., M.P.; Christopher Wilson, Esq., and a long train of gentlemen of the first respectability. Sir John married, March 3rd, 1774, Mary, third daughter of Dr. Christopher Wilson, Lord Bishop of Bristol, and aunt to Richard Fountayne Wilson, Esq., and left a large family of children, to whom we shall shortly allude. There is a fine portrait of Sir John Beckett in the Leeds Bank.

Joseph Beckett, the younger son of John Beckett, succeeded to his father's business at Barnsley. In 1789 he was a linen manufacturer and grocer, and afterwards became owner of extensive bleach works, which are still known as "Beckett's Bleach Works." He was a man of extraordinary energy and enterprise, and has been justly styled the father of the Barnsley linen trade, which he did much to concentrate and localise in the district.

In the award on the Enclosure of Barnsley Commons in 1777 :—

	A.	R.	P.
"Joseph Beckett, gent., had 6 allotments at Harbro' Hill, Warren Common, and Old Town Green, amounting to	6	3	26

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	A.	R.	P.
John Beckett, Esq., 3 allotments on Warren Common and Race Common	1	2	36
Joseph Beckett, gent., the intake lately enclosed from Old Mill Field and Far Field	11	2	6"

Mr. John Hugh Burland, in his *Social and Scenic Pictures of Barnsley in the Eighteenth Century*, gives the following anecdote of Mr. Joseph Beckett :—

"On a certain occasion, Joseph Beckett was advised, by a correspondent in his interest, that a cargo of yarn from Hamburg had entered Kingston-upon-Hull. This news he communicated to Edward Taylor. No time being to be lost, the two confederates agreed to start by the first coach, and purchase it. By some means William Wilson got a wind of their intention. What he thought of the matter he kept entirely to himself, and his deportment betrayed neither hurry nor excitement. He went about his business just for all the world as though nothing was the matter. About his usual time, he went down to the croft. He threw his saddle across his back, and took it with him. But his horse was kept down at the croft, and he invariably did the same thing when he intended to have a ride. His conduct denoted nothing particular. Taylor and Beckett arrived safely at Hull, and took lodgings for the night at the head inn, fully expecting to effect their purchase in the morning. Having taken at their ease a *dejeûner à la fourchette*, they stepped into a hair-dresser's shop to get their heads dressed and powdered, in order, as it was thought, to appear of some consequence to the merchant. While the hair-dresser was combing, and

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brushing, and curling, and expatiating on the latest accidents and offences, who should pass the shop but Billy Wilson. Had the two Barnsley gentlemen been stung by an adder, or had they sat each on a hot cinder, or had they seen a ghost, they could not have been more disconcerted. They could neither hide their emotion, nor conceal their chagrin. Their fidgets were so violent, they resembled spasms. Had they been galvanised, they could scarcely have been more ill at ease. The talkative hair-dresser might have taken them for sharpers, who had unexpectedly seen a Bow Street runner, had not their appearance been every way respectable. They were now in a desperate hurry to be gone. They would neither allow the hair-dresser to give the last finish to their locks, nor conclude his story about the last murder. In a rather abrupt and feverish state, they rushed into the presence of the merchant. After the usual bowings and salutations which supervene when gentlemen meet, Mr. Beckett interposed :—

"'You have a cargo of yarn to dispose of?'

"'I had within the last hour,' quoth the merchant.

"'Is it indeed sold?' demanded Taylor.

"'Sold!' echoed the merchant.

"There was now a pause, and each of the disappointed buyers felt an inclination to twist a waistcoat button off; but such a procedure being clownish, each contented himself with stroking his chin, and uttering the interjection—'Humph!'

"'If it be not a state secret,' said Beckett, 'you will, perhaps, be kind enough to name the purchaser?'

"'An old Quaker,' replied the merchant, 'named William Wilson, from a place called Black Barnsley.'

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"'Did he really purchase all?' inquired Taylor.

"'Every hank,' rejoined the merchant, 'and paid down solid gold and silver, and received a liberal discount.'

"'I'm astonished,' said Taylor.

"'So am I,' exclaimed Beckett.

"'Believe me, gentlemen,' said the merchant, 'I was astonished too, for, judging from his appearance, I should have thought him scarcely able to raise a guinea to save himself from the tread-mill.'

"'Ah, for that matter,' said Beckett, 'he is rich enough. But we are astonished at the manner in which he has contrived to slip in before us.'

"'I am extremely sorry, gentlemen, you have met with a disappointment so annoying,' condoled the merchant, 'but I shall be glad to accommodate you, next time.'

"How William Wilson got to Hull, we have not been able to ascertain. Likely enough nobody knew but himself. He never told his business to anybody. He was not the man to ride his horse all the way, without drawing rein, in the manner of Dick Turpin. He probably rode his nag the first stage, and caught a fast coach. After he returned, he did not so much as condescend to say what he had been about. Nobody would judge from his demeanour that he had done anything clever.

"The *ruse* made a sensation in the town, and it was talked about amongst old people when I was a youth."

Mr. Joseph Beckett was not only brother to the first Sir John Beckett, and uncle to the second Sir John, but he was also uncle and father-in-law to Sir Thomas Beckett.

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He married Mary, daughter of John Staniforth, Esq., of Hull, and had the following issue which we give from the Church Register:—

"Eleanor, daughter of Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Mary Beckett, born May 17th, bap. 26th, 1786.

Caroline, daughter of Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Mary Beckett, born Oct. 5th, bap. Nov. 2nd, 1788.

Mary Ann, daughter of Mr. Joseph and Mary Beckett, born Oct. 4th, bap. Oct. 19th, 1789.

Eliza, dau. of Mr. Jo: and Mary Beckett, born April 14th, bap. July 7th, 1791.

Augusta, dau. of Joseph Beckett, Esquire, and Mary, his wife, born 20th August, bap. Oct. 16th, 1798.

John Staniforth, son of Mr. Jo: Beckett, born April 5, bap. June 16th, 1794."

At the close of the last and the beginning of the present century, Mr. Joseph Beckett carried on the banking business at Barnsley, in partnership with Mr. Clarke, under the firm of Beckett and Clarke; and subsequently with Mr. John Birks, as Beckett, Birks, and Co. The business of this bank was afterwards transferred to that of the Wakefield and Barnsley Union Bank. As a banker, Mr. Beckett was public-spirited and liberal. He was a deputy-lieutenant for the West Riding, and for many years an active and useful magistrate. On the Improvement Act being obtained for Barnsley in 1822, Mr. Beckett and his only son, John Staniforth Beckett, were appointed Commissioners; the former was chairman of the same for many years prior to his death, and was succeeded in that capacity by his son. Mr. Beckett's life throughout was one of inflexible integrity, which won for him the respect and esteem of his fellow-townsmen. His old age

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and infirmity were cheered by their genuine reverence, and his death, which took place on the 11th February, 1840, at the age of 88 years, cast a gloom over his native town. Two days afterwards, on the 13th of February, his wife died also, after a long and painful illness, at the age of 79. They had been united in the bonds of matrimony for a period of 55 years. Both were interred in one grave on the 22nd February, when the principal shops in the town were closed, and several thousand persons assembled to witness the mournful ceremony and pay a last token of respect to two aged and exemplary persons, who were universally regretted. On a neat marble monument in the south chancel of St. Mary's Church, on which is pourtrayed the arms of Beckett, is the following inscription :—

"To the memory of Joseph Beckett, Esq., merchant and banker, born in this town, August 31, A.D. 1751, who died Feb. 11, A.D. 1840, aged 88. Also in memory of Mary, his wife, daughter of the late John Staniforth, Esq., of Hull, who, surviving her husband but two days, died February 13, A.D. 1840, aged 79 years. After being united 55 years, they were interred together on the same day in one grave."

The arms granted to the family on the memorial of John Beckett, of Leeds, when about to be created a Baronet, in 1813, were—*Gules*, a fesse between three boars' heads couped, *erminois*. Crest, on a wreath, a boar's head couped *or*, pierced by a cross pattée fitchée, erect *sable*.

Joseph and Mary Beckett left only one son (and the daughters above-named), John Staniforth Beckett, whose connection continued more or less with his native town until

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his death in 1868.* The following notice of Mr. John Staniforth Beckett appeared at the time of his decease, which took place at Wombwell, near Barnsley, on the 9th November, 1868.

"Mr. Beckett was well known in Barnsley and the surrounding district, where his demise will be greatly regretted; and in the town of Barnsley his name will be for generations associated with what is good and praiseworthy, he having built and endowed the Beckett Dispensary,† an institution to which, through his further munificence, will shortly be added a ward for the treatment of surgical cases. The Dispensary, which bears Mr. Beckett's name, was erected by him in 1864, and endowed with a sum of £5,000. On presenting it to the town, the public were so impressed with the liberality of the generous donor, that a public meeting was held, at which the thanks of the

*Aug. 21, 1821, John Staniforth Beckett laid the foundation stone of Barnsley Gas Works.

The following were the Barnsley Freeholders, with a qualification of £100 a year from freehold property, who voted for the election of Registrar, at Wakefield, in 1809:—Joseph Beckett, George Cadwell, John Cawood, Henry Clarke, John Cordeux, William Denton, Samuel Dunn, John Greenwood, Joseph Hall, John Hopwood, Wm. Horsfall, Wm. Jackson, John Leadman, John Naylor, George Pitt, William Rich, Robt. Richardson, John Roper, John Rowley, James Spurr (Yews), John Stocks, Richard Taylor (Park House), Edward Taylor, John Taylor, Benj. Taylor (Birk House), John West (Barnsley), John Fox, Wm. Haxworth, Joseph Rhodes (Ward Green).

† "And whereas the said John Staniforth Beckett, with a view to providing efficient drugs and medicines and medical advice for such of the inhabitants of the town of Barnsley aforesaid as are or for the time being in future may be unable by reason of poverty otherwise to obtain the same, has determined to found an institution to be called 'The Beckett Dispensary,' and to grant and convey the said land and

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inhabitants were accorded to Mr. Beckett for his munificence. The Beckett Dispensary proved a great boon to the town, but the necessity was pressing for an hospital where surgical cases, which unfortunately are so frequent in colliery districts, might be treated. The committee, therefore, set on foot a movement to provide accommodation for that purpose on the existing premises, and circulars were issued soliciting subscriptions. No sooner did this come to Mr. Beckett's knowledge than he communicated with the secretary, requesting him to make known to the committee that he had in contemplation the erection, at his own expense, of a wing to the existing building, capable of holding twenty beds, and was also anxious to present £2,000 to assist the endowment fund; and this he fully carried out. Mr. Beckett had an intimate business connection with Barnsley, having been largely interested in the Wakefield and Barnsley Union Bank; and it is only a few years since he retired, having amassed a considerable

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hereditaments specified in the schedule hereunder written, with the appurtenances, so that the same, and also a dispensary and buildings, which the said John Staniforth Beckett intends forthwith at his own cost to build on the said land or some part thereof, may become vested in fee simple in the several persons and parties hereto of the third part upon the trusts hereafter declared. And whereas for the purpose of endowing the said Dispensary the said John Staniforth Beckett intends, when such Dispensary and buildings shall be erected and completed, but not sooner, to invest the sum of £5,000 in the names of the several parties, to be held by them upon the trusts named. The persons appointed as trustees were: F. W. T. V. Wentworth, Esq., W. S. Stanhope, Esq., Rev. H. R. Alder (incumbent of St. Mary's), William Newman (Darley Hall), Henry Jackson (Darfield), Thomas Edward Taylor, and Robert Coldwell Clarke."—*Extract from Trust Deed.*

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fortune by patient industry and careful business habits. On retiring from active business, Mr. Beckett took up his residence at Torquay, where he lived till within a short time of his death; but his recollections of, and visits to the scenes where he spent his boyhood days were frequent, and the pleasure he took in benefiting the town is sufficiently proved by the above facts."

Mr. Beckett's personal estate was sworn under £350,000, and this he bequeathed to the younger children of his niece, Lady Bacon, as they came of age; the eldest son, Sir Hickman Bacon (born in 1855), succeeding to Sir Thomas Beckett's property after the death of his aunt, Miss Beckett, and his mother, Lady Bacon, which two ladies are, in succession, heiresses to Sir Thomas Beckett.

In addition to erecting the Dispensary and Hospital, he also left to the National Lifeboat Institution £600 for providing a lifeboat, to be called the *Gertrude* (the name of his wife), and to be stationed on such part of the Yorkshire coast as that institution may think fit. To the Ragged School at Barnsley, £200; to the churchwardens for the time being of St. Mary's Church, Barnsley, £300, the income to be applied to the repair of the said church; to the churchwardens of St. John's Church, Barnsley, £200, the income to be applied in like manner; to the churchwardens of St. George's Church, Barnsley, £200, the income to be applied in like manner; to the Beckett Dispensary, at Barnsley, £5,000; to the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, £1,250; to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, £750; and from and after the decease of his wife, to the Trustees of the National Gallery, for the use of the nation, the following five pictures, viz.:—

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The portrait, by Murillo, of a "Peasant Boy;" a "Painter's Gallery," by Brenghel, filled with a great many other paintings, curiosities, and various figures; a landscape, by R. Wilson, called "The Bathers;" "Early Morning," by A. Cuyp; and "Frost Scene on River at Daylight," with figures, by Panderneer.

To return to our early townsman, Sir John Beckett, the first Baronet. He had a large family—eight sons and three daughters. First, John, the second Baronet; second, Christopher, born 1777; third, Thomas, the third Baronet; fourth, Richard, a captain in the Guards, killed at Talavera, 28th July, 1809, and honourably mentioned by the Duke of Wellington in his despatch of the following day. Of him there is the following memorial in the south chancel of St. Mary's Church, Barnsley :—

"S. M.

Of Richard Beckett, captain in the Coldstream Regiment of Guards, and brigade-major of the British Guards in Spain, who gloriously fell in the victorious battle of Talavera de la Reyna, the 28th July, 1809. Aged 28."

The fifth son was William, M.P., a banker in Leeds, born in 1784, and who married Frances Adelina, sister of Mr. Meynell Ingram, of Temple Newsam; sixth, Edmund, who assumed the name of Denison, was born in 1787, and on the death of his brother, Sir Thomas, in 1872, succeeded to the Baronetcy. Henry, the seventh son, born in 1791, was a merchant in America, and died 11th Sept., 1871, having twice married and left issue. George, the eighth son, born in 1793, was in holy orders, and became Rector of Epworth and Vicar of Gainsborough, also a prebendary of Lincoln, died unmarried, 13th April, 1843.

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Of the daughters, Mary, Elizabeth, and Ann, the last-named married Colonel, afterwards General Marriott. In Leeds Parish Church there is a tablet erected to the memory of Sir John Beckett, the first Baronet, and that of Lady Beckett, and monuments of William and of Richard Beckett.

Sir John Beckett, the second Baronet, died in 1847,* and was succeeded by his next surviving brother, Thomas, the third Baronet, who died at his seat, Somerby Park, Gainsborough, on the 17th November, 1872. He was the oldest of living Baronets at the time of his death, and was lord of eight parts of the manor of Leeds, Mrs. Meynell Ingram possessing the ninth and remaining part.

Edmund Denison, of Doncaster, formerly member of Parliament for the West Riding, the sixth son of Sir John Beckett, succeeded to the title on the death of his brother, Sir Thomas, in 1872. Although approaching his 85th year at the time, he was hale and hearty. He married, 14th Dec., 1814, Maria, daughter of Wm. Beverley, Esq., of Beverley, and great niece of the wife of Sir Thomas Denison, Knt., a judge of the Common Pleas, on which occasion, or soon after, he assumed the surname of Denison only, by Royal license, on inheriting the property of his wife's great aunt; but although Mr. Edmund Beckett was enjoined to take the name of Denison only, he was generally called by others Mr. E. Beckett Denison; and indeed for some years

* The Right Hon. Sir John Beckett, Bart., F.R.S., Judge Advocate General in Lord Liverpool's Administration; he was for many years M.P., first for Hazlemere, and afterwards for Leeds; born 17th May, 1775; married, 20th Jan., 1817, Lady Anne Lowther, daughter of William, Earl of Lonsdale, K.G., and died, s.p., 31st May, 1847.

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generally signed his name so. On succeeding to the Baronetcy, however, he discontinued the name of Denison, and became styled Sir Edmund Beckett, Baronet. After his marriage he resided for a while at Carlton, near Newark, where his eldest son, the present Baronet, was born. About the year 1818 he settled in Doncaster. He died 24th May, 1874, in the 87th year of his age, and with him expired the last of a generation of brothers (sons of a native of Barnsley) who have held a high place in the estimation of Yorkshiremen, and whose lives have been identified with the varied interests of the West Riding during the present century. His three sons are well known. The eldest is Mr. E. B. Denison, Q.C., now Sir Edmund Beckett, Chancellor of the diocese of York. He married Fanny, daughter of Bishop Lonsdale, formerly of Lichfield. The second son is Mr. C. B. Denison, formerly M.P. for the Eastern Division of the West Riding, who is unmarried; and the third son is Mr. W. B Denison, the managing partner of the banking firm at Leeds and other places, formerly member for East Retford and Bassetlaw, and who married Helen Duncombe, daughter of the second Baron Feversham, and sister of the present (the first) Earl, and has three sons and four daughters.

The Becketts are evidently a hardy and long lived race, as will be seen from the advanced ages to which many of them have lived. Sir Thomas, who attained the advanced age of 93 years, married, in 1825, Caroline, daughter of his uncle, Joseph Beckett, of Barnsley. Sir Thomas and Lady Beckett left issue two daughters only, Mary and Elizabeth, the latter of whom married in 1853, Sir Henry Hickman Bacon, Bart., the premier Baronet of England,

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and who numbers among his family connections Friar Bacon, Sir Nicholas Bacon, Knt., Lord Keeper in the time of Elizabeth; and the celebrated Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam. By this alliance of the families of Beckett and Bacon was exemplified, says a recent writer, the unique coincidence of the senior Baronet being father-in-law to the premier Baronet of England. By the law of chances it is scarcely possible for such a strange fact to occur again in this sense. The Beckett Baronetcy is well known to be one of the most wealthily-endowed in the long list of baronetcies of the United Kingdom. The eldest brother, Christopher Beckett, who died suddenly in 1847, unmarried, and without a will, left personalty amounting to nearly one million sterling, which was divided among his brothers and sisters. Mr. William Beckett, the then head of Beckett's Bank, who died in 1856, left personal property amounting to £700,000, and his great wealth descended to the sons, in tail male, of his brother, the late Sir Edmund Beckett, whose eldest son, the present Sir Edmund Beckett, Q.C. (who was independently a man of great wealth), is the tenant for life.

John Staniforth Beckett, of Barnsley, the only son of Joseph Beckett, and cousin to Sir John and Sir Thomas Beckett, of Leeds, on his death in 1868, as we have said, left personal estate (in addition to his real estate) amounting to about £350,000, which centres in the children of Sir Henry Hickman Bacon. Thus the wealth accumulated by the two brothers, Sir John Beckett, of Leeds, and Joseph Beckett, of Barnsley, appears destined, like the riches of the Rothschilds, to agglomerate for the benefit of their descendants.

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No. IV.

Sir George Wombwell and the Family of Wombwell, of Wombwell and Barnsley.

THE family of Wombwell, another of the families that passed into the Baronetage from Barnsley, is of high antiquity. Its descent was the subject of controversy amongst genealogists so far back as the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The pedigree confirmed by Flower, Norroy King of Arms, at the Visitation in 1563, not being satisfactory, the family employed Dethick, a celebrated herald, in 1593, to compile for them another and more satisfactory one, in which their descent was traced through a regular succession of Wombwells to a Robert Wombwell, who was alleged to have been living in the second year of the reign of King Stephen (1137). Of this pedigree the account given in Thoresby's *Ducatus* is said to be for the most part a copy; but about 1775, when the first Sir George Wombwell was created a baronet, John Charles Brooke, the Somerset Herald, was employed to

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compare this pedigree with existing evidence, and to compile an authentic one of the family, but he could not reconcile it with evidences, or raise a more satisfactory one on its basis.* The family have, however, been connected with the township of Wombwell from a very early period. In 1277, when what is called Kirkby's Inquest was taken, John de Wombwell is returned as holding lands in Wombwell. In 1316, the ninth year of the reign of Edward the Second, a Robert de Wombwell appears as Lord of Wombwell. In 1335, Hugh, son of Ralph de Wombwell was slain by Richard, son of John D'Eyvile, of Hemingfield.† D'Eyvile was in gaol at York, in that year, when a pardon was granted from the King, as it appeared that he had slain Wombwell in his own defence. In 1372, a Richard de Wombwell, on the death of Thomas de Darfield, was elected Prior of Nostel, and he presided over that house until his death in 1385. He was, we are told, a man of a very different stamp from his predecessor; had a great affection for "Choice Falerian" and "Nostel October," and was very fond of hunting and liked jovial society. When he wished to unbend, he would say to his companions, "The Prior is fast asleep." Then he would make merry, and, we suspect, give a colour of truth to the quaint song

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* Hunter's *South Yorkshire*. Vol. ii., p. 123.

† On the 9th Oct., 1366, there was a Commission to absolve Adam de Wordelworth, chaplain, for killing John de Staynton, at Bernesley, in self-defence.

On 26th Feb., 1362, there was a Commission to absolve Sir Adam de Everingham, Knight, who had been excommunicated for laying violent hands on Richard de Halghton, rector, of a moiety of the church of Derfield. 28th Ed. I.

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in which the monks of old are pictured as a jovial crew, laughing and quaffing to their hearts' content. Nevertheless he was no idle Prior. He added considerably to the buildings of the monastery by the erection of new cells for the canon's dormitory, a new infirmary, a guest chamber, a bakehouse, and a stable near the pool, for the use of strangers. He also built a new bell tower, and sank a well where the coal pits of the priory were. Returning from Pontefract, he was seized with a paralysis that deprived him of the use of his limbs and speech. In this state he remained eight or nine days, and then he died, and was buried in the middle of the new Chapter House.*

A deed of Thomas de Wombwell, of the date 6th Henry IV. (1405), was in the Museum of Thoresby, the antiquary, and afterwards was in the possession of Mr. Wilson, of Broomhead, which contained a beautiful impression of his seal, exhibiting the arms at present borne by the family, with the inscription—

"SIGILLVM THOMAE DE WOMBEWELL."†

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* *Nostel Priory*, Batty. Pages 19-20.

† In a Poll-tax in 1379, reign of Richard II., among a great number of names under Wombwell, are the following :—

"Johannes de Wodhall, ad valorem, militis.....	xx*s.*
Hugo de Wombewell, eodem nomine, and Elena vx" ejus	xx*s.*
Elena Seruiens Johannis de Wodhall	iiij*d.*
Ricardus de Merkesburgh and Cecilia vx" ejus	iiij*d.*
Johannes de Feronlowe and Auicia vx" ejus, *ffleshewer*	vi*d.*
Willelmus Cok and Cecilia vx" ejus, *Bakester*	iiij*d.*
Willelmus Bakester and Elizabetha vx" ejus	iiij*d.*
Alicia Shepshank, *Chapman*	xij*d.*"

—*See Public Record Office. Lay Subsidies, West Riding of York, No.* 206-49.

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In pre-Reformation times, if persons who were about to marry were related to each other in even a remote degree, they had to obtain a licence or dispensation from the Pope or one of his Cardinals in order to be allowed to do so. One of these dispensations was granted by Jordan, Bishop of Alba, on the 12th of June, 1430, to Thomas Wombwell, Esq., and Joan Bosvile to marry. This permission was required as "Elizabeth, Wombwell's first wife, was related to Joan in the fourth degree." On Dec. 18th, 1470, there was a dispensation from the Pope for John Hall and Margarey Wombwell, who were married and had children. This would appear to have been required in those times, on account of "John Wombwell, Esq., the father of Margarey, being Hall's godfather."

Thomas Wombwell died in 1452, and in his will, proved 14th March, 1452-3, he directs that he shall be buried in the church of Darfield.* To the chapel of St. John and St. James at Darfield he leaves three marks. A missal, which he had received under the will of John Rockley, he leaves to the church of Darfield for the use of the priest of the aforesaid chapel. To Joan Wombwell, his wife, £40, together with all the cattle and furniture, which were bestowed upon her before their marriage. He also bequeathed to her eight bulls, and twelve cows, together with two hanging bedsteads, and all the apparel, curtains, sheets, and pillows in the two rooms usually occupied, viz., the public room and new room. To his son, Thomas Wombwell, 100 marks, of which part is let out on mortgage to one Thomas Preston; one hanging bedstead, together

* *Testamenta Eboracensia* (*Surtees Soc. Pub.*), Vol. xxx. 163-4.

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with the pillows, sheets, and curtains, which were in the empty parlour, and all the other furniture and things in the room which he occupies. Grand-daughter, Agnes Wombwell, £20. William Carter, testator's chaplain, 40s. To the poor and needy of the townships of Wombwell and Darfield, 20s.; to the Chapel of the Blessed Mary of Wombwell, 13s. 4d.; to the houses of St. Augustine, at Tickhill, the Minor Brethren and the Carmelites of Doncaster, and the Friar Preachers of Pontefract, 13s. 4d. each; the sum of five marks to be distributed among the poor people seven days after his funeral; to five of the needy without distinction living near his chapel, 6s. 8d. in alms; to his illegitimate son, John Wombwell, 13s. 4d.; to each of his servants, 13s. 4d.; to his son, John Wombwell, four yoke of oxen, with all the ornaments of his chapel, including chalice, books, and vestments, and all the sheets, hangings, etc., of his couch, with half of all his vases or jars, and utensils of his pantry, his own bed, with all the apparel in his own room, together with his hanging bed and all the sheets and bed clothes in the parlour. His son John, John Bosvile, and Thomas Wombwell, executors.* Thomas Wombwell was allowed to enclose a certain part of the king's highway, from the "greene lane in Wombwell towards the south, as far as Tunstall Cross."

On the 27th Feb., 1452, there was a commission from Richard Tone, Vicar General, to the Bishop of the Isles, to

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* "14th July, 1452. Tho: Wombewell, of Wombwell, Esq., made his will (proved 14th March, 1453), giving his soul to God Almighty his Creator, to St. Mary and all Saints, and his body to be buried in ye Church of All-hallows of Darfield."—*Torre's Testamentary Burials.*

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veil Joan, widow of Thomas Wombwell.* This custom was common in early times. Many ladies took vows of chastity, particularly widows on the death of their husbands. A kind of investiture, says Canon Raine, took place generally before or during the celebration of mass, when the officiator gave the vowess a pall or mantle, a veil and a ring, and then she made a vow of chastity. She was not necessarily severed from the world through this ceremony, but could live in it, and did so, generally living a retired sort of life, and near to some monastery.

The widow of Thomas Wombwell, who was a daughter of Sir William Fitzwilliam, of Sprotborough, did not long survive her husband. By her will, which was dated July 10, 1454,† she left for the erection of bells at Whitkirk 40s. 0d.; for a quarterly service of the Blessed Mary at Darfield,

* "1484-5, Jan. 5. Commission to William, Bishop of Dromore, to veil Margaret Simms, of Barnsley, widow."

"1399, Nov. 17. In the chapel within the Manor of Newstead, near the priory of St. Oswald of Nostel, William, Bishop of Pharos, the suffragan of the Archbishop, received the vow of chastity of Isabell, widow of Sir John Savile [of Thornhill and Tankersley], Knt., and gave her the ring and mantle."—*Reg. Scrope*, 21*a*.

"1474. Commission to William, Bishop of Dromore, to veil Joan Marton, of Hemsworth, widow."

"1482, July 3. Commission to William, Bishop of Dromore, to veil Alice, widow of Sir John Savile, Knt. [of Thornhill and Tankersley]."

"1491-2, Feb. 1. Commission to William, Bishop of Dromore, to veil Isabel, widow of Thomas Fletcher, of Calthorne (Cawthorne)."

"1456, June 11. Commission to Roger Spencer, rector of Barnburgh, to receive the oath of Joan, wife of John Wentworth, of North Elmsal, who is charged by her husband with adultery."

"1383. The vow of chastity of Elizabeth Fitzwilliam received."—*Testamenta Ebor* (*Surtees Soc.*) Vol. xxx.

† *Testamenta Eboracensia* (*Surtees Society Pub.*) Vol. xxx. ; 163-4.

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13s. 4d.; and the same amount for similar services at Wombwell, Roystone, Sandal, and Pontefract; to each brother and priest at these places, 1s.; to William Scargill, of Thorpe, shield bearer, one pair of . . . . with the golden ornaments, one pair of blankets, and ten marks in money; to William Mirfield, her brother, one silver funnel with hanging cover, one feather bed with bolster and down pillows, and ten marks; to Elizabeth Arundall one mantle of linen; to the Church of Batley a quantity of linen for vestments, and 13s. 4d.; to John Fitzwilliam, her small cross; to Margaret Popilwell one black gown; to Alice Mirfield, her sister, her black belt; to Margaret Salley, one belt of green; to Cecelia Bemond, one belt; to Sir John Boswell, of the rectory of the Church of Darfield, one black belt; to John Scargill, of Deyn, 40s.; to John Scargill, of Roche, 13s. 4d.; to Agnes Amyas, one dress, one green waterproof, and seven marks; to Oliver Mirfield, eight silver spoons; to Lady Jane Lacy, one bracelet, one cap, and one handkerchief, and all her hair; to William Salley, junr., one silver funnel with a hanging cover; to Elizabeth Burgoyen, one black linen dress. She also bequeathed eight marks to the chapel of Lord Henry Northorpe for the celebration of masses or other divine things for one year for the good of her soul; Ambrose Holmes, 13s. 4d.; to Jane Scargill, her servant, two coverlets, two bodices, and all her old linen, and three marks in silver. Residue to William Scargill, of Thorp, and William Mirfield, for the good of her soul. Proved at York, 1454.

John Wombwell, Esq., the son and heir of Thomas Wombwell, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Bosvile, of Ardsley. John Wombwell's name is mixed up in a very

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curious case which occurred at Wombwell in the year 1467. A William Byg, *alias* Lech, for some years drove a lucrative trade at that place as a magician, and by pretending to discover stolen property through the aid of a magic crystal. The Vicar-General of the Archbishop of York laid hands on him on a charge of heresy. In his evidence Byg implicates several persons of rank and consideration, including John Wombwell and a Fitzwilliam. The punishment inflicted upon the culprit was to march at the head of a procession, carrying a lighted torch and his books on magic, and he was to make a full recantation and burn the books. This recantation was to be repeated in the parish churches of Pontefract, Barnsley, Doncaster, and Rotherham.*

* Canon Raine, in a communication to the *Archæological Journal*, Vol. xiii., p. 373, says:—"The culprit, one William Byg, *alias* Lech, came to Wombwell about the year 1465. For the next two or three years he earned a livelihood by recovering stolen property through the aid of a crystal. His fame for good and evil began to spread abroad, and he soon found himself in the hands of the Vicar-General of the Archbishop of York, upon a charge of heresy. The fear of the heavy pains and penalties which could be inflicted for so serious an offence drew a full confession from the culprit. In it he gives an account of the manner in which he practised his art, of his experiments and their success.

"The following punishment was to be inflicted on him:—He was ordered to walk at the head of a procession in the Cathedral Church of York, holding a lighted torch in his right hand, and a rod with his books hanging to it by a string in his left. A paper inscribed with the words *ecce sortilegus* was to be affixed to his head. On his breast and back were to be inscribed the words *invocatur spirituum*, whilst his shoulders were to be decorated with similar ornaments, charged with the appalling title of *sortilegus*. Thus attired, he was ordered to make a full recantation of his misdemeanours, and to seal it by committing his books to the flames. A similar repudiation of his errors was to be made in the parish churches of Pontefract, Barnsley, Doncaster, and Rotherham.

"Byg's confession before the Commissary Poteman was made on the 22nd of August, 1467. He did not, however, make his full submission

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John Wombwell, by his will dated the 15th of June, 1487, and proved at York on the 31st July, the same year, desired to be buried in the Church of Darfield.* To Roger Wombwell he leaves a missal, a chalice of silver gilt, with all the other ornaments of his chapel. John Wombwell, his son, to be his residuary legatee, and among the witnesses of his will occur the names of Hugh Wombwell, gent., Oliver Crofte Vicar of Darfield, and Richard Hopkynson, Vicar of Bolton.†

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before the 23rd March the following year, when he was released from the pains of excommunication and received his sentence. The punishment for such an offender, was but slight. This apparent lenity may, perhaps, be accounted for. It is very probable that some persons of consequence had required Byg's assistance, and thus the deceiver was rescued by the dupe. With great adroitness he implicates with himself several persons of rank and consideration. By doing so he probably saved himself. The Wombwells were even then rising into importance, and the Archbishop of York, with the princely blood of Neville flowing in his veins, would be loth to lay his hands upon a Fitzwilliam [who is mentioned in Byg's evidence.]"

* *Testamenta Ebor.* (*Surtees Society's Pub.*) Vol. xxv. pp. 163-64.

† "15th June, 1487. John Wombwell of Wombwell, in ye Parish of Darfield, made his will, giving his soul (*ut supra*) and his body to be buried in the Parish Church, Darfield.

1 Jan. 1475. Thomas Wombwell, of Darfield, made his will (proved 23 Jan., 1475) giving his soul to God Almighty, St. Mary, and all saints, and his body to be buried in ye Parish Church of Darfield.

4 July, 1555. Hugh Wombwell, of ye Parish of Darfield, gent., made his will (proved 10 Oct., 1556), giving his soul to God Almighty, St. Mary, and all saints, and his body to be buried in ye Church of Allhallowes before our Lady at Darfield.

7 April, 1622. Will Wombwell, of Wombwell, Esq., made his will (proved 25 June, 1622), giving his soul to God Almighty, his Creator, and his body to be buried in ye Parish Church of Darfield.

15 June, 1637. Cotton Wombwell, of Wombwell, gent., made his will (proved 2 Aug., 1638), giving his soul to God, and his body to be buried in ye Church or Churchyard of Darfield."—*Torre's Testamentary Burials.*

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Roger Wombwell, in 1507, founded and endowed in the chapel of St. Mary, at Wombwell, a chantry dedicated to our Lady of Pity, to Pray for his soul, and all Christian souls, the clear value at the time of King Henry's *Valor* being £4 11s. 3d., issuing out of lands at Bolton, Newhall, and Darfield. Robert Curtis was then the Chantry priest.

Another Roger Wombwell, of Wombwell, entered the monastery of Mount Grace. His will is dated 26th May, 1520; and a Richard, son of Richard de Wombwell (says Burton, in his *Monasticon*), gave all his lands at Smithley to the prior and monks of Bretton.

The Wombwells came into possession of the estate of Thundercliffe, through the marriage of Hugh Wombwell, second son of Thomas Wombwell, of Wombwell, with the only daughter of Thomas Rokeby (brother of the Archbishop of that name), of Thundercliffe, and this estate remained in the family of Wombwell for three generations.*

* At Glover's Visitation of Yorkshire, in 1584, we find the following families of Wombwell entered their arms and pedigrees :—

Thomas Wombwell, of Wombwell, Esq.
Thomas Wombwell, at Synocliffe Grange, gent.
Ralph Wombwell, of Dalton, gent.

While at the Visitation of 1612, by Richard St. George, Norroy King of Arms, the arms and pedigrees of Wombwell, of Wonbwell, were entered and signed by "John Wombwell and Appleton Wombwell."

Branches of the Wombwell family have resided at different periods at Hemingfield, Great Houghton, and Darfield. According to the Darfield Parish Registers, a—

Mr. Appleton Wombwell, of Darfield, was bur. ye 2nd of June, 1629.

William Wombwell, son of John Wombwell, of Great Houghton, bur. 13th Jan., 1640.

Mr. Fuljamb Wombwell, of Hemingfield, bur. Feb. 13, 1654.

Mrs. Wombwell, widow, Hemingfield (in Womwell), bur. 27th July, 1690.

William Wombwell, eldest son of Thomas Womwell, was living at Blacker in 1612.

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We pass over several generations of the family until we come to the time of John Wombwell, of Wombwell, who was a Justice of the Peace in the reign of Elizabeth, and who married Frances, daughter of Sir John Wentworth, of Elmsall. He had a large family, including William, his eldest son, John, Cotton, Woodruffe, Wentworth, Francis, Darcy, Appleton, and at least one daughter. The eldest son and successor, William, who was born about 1565, was married three times; to his second wife, Mary, daughter and heiress of William Rockley, of Rockley, he had no issue, but to his third wife, Olivia, daughter of William Burnel, of Brinkburn, co. Notts., he had a large family, including William (who succeeded him), Thomas, a Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and Vicar of Wath, and Roger, who was the direct ancestor of the family of Wombwell of Leeds and Barnsley. Thomas was instituted to the Vicarage of Wath, on the 24th July, 1652, and was ejected from a Fellowship of his college for refusing to take the engagement. He was, however, restored in 1660, and died in 1661.* William, the

* "There was ejected from this College, on account of the engagements (St. John's College, Cambridge), Thomas Wombwell, B.D. He, however, lived to be restored in 1660."—*Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy*, p. 15. "The date of his institution is not found in Torre's list; but in the records of the First Fruits Office, he is said to have entered into the possession of the benefice 24th July, 1652. Perhaps he had no regular presentation or institution. In his time £50 a year was ordered to be paid out of the rectory to the Vicar of Pontefract. He died Vicar of Wath."—*South Yorkshire*, vol. ii. pp. 72. "Mr. Thomas Wombwell, Vicar of Wath, bur. Oct. 28, 1661."—*Darfield Parish Register.*

"The sum of £30 which was given in 1633, by the Rev. Thomas Wombwell, for building a School at Wath, was laid out in purchasing a small field, and erecting a school thereon."—*Charity Commissioners' Reports*, 1826.

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eldest son, was captain of a company of Foot in the trained bands of the West Riding, under the command of Sir George Wentworth, of Woolley, whose sister, Margaret, he had married. He was succeeded at Wombwell by his eldest son, Thomas, who was born 18th May, 1632, and on the 26th June, 1655, married Martha, daughter of Sir Thomas Wentworth, of Elmsall, Knt. The following record of their marriage may be found in the Darfield Parish Register:—

"Thomas Wombwell, Esq., of Wombwell, within this parish of Darfield, and Mrs. Martha Wentworth, of the parish of Badsworth, were married by Thomas Westby, Esquire, a Justice of the Peace, the 26th day of June, 1655. The publication being made three severall Lord's dayes in ye parish church of Darfield, that is May 13th, May 20th, and May 27th, at the close of the morning exercise, according to an Act of Parliament, and nothing objected against their marriage."

In 1661 we have a copy of an order issued by Thomas Wombwell, Esq., of Wombwell, calling upon the militia to assemble for training at Darfield Shroggs, a place in front of Middlewood Hall, and at a short distance from the Roman earthworks, where they assembled for drill up to the early part of the present century. The document runs as follows:—"These are to will and require you, the constables of the townes hereunder written, that you give notis to all the private and common men within your severall constabularies that they bee and appeare completely armed at Darfield Shroggs, upon Tuesday, the twenty-fourth day of September, by tenne of the clocke in the morninge, and that you the constables doe provide and sende with each musketer one halfe pounde of powder and

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twoe yards and a halfe of match, and that you give notis to all privat men that doe make the same provisson of ammunicion for three days of this provisson to be made. You are not to faile, or any soldier of their appearance, as you tender his Ma'ties servis. Given under my hand the nineteenth day of September, 1661.

"THO : WOMBWELL.

"To the Constabells of Carleton, Royston, Notton, Woolley, Darton, Cumberworth, and Bretton."

Thomas Wombwell died August 7th, 1665, in his 33rd year,* leaving one surviving son, William, who died 18th

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* "Mr. Thomas Wombwell, of Wombwell, Esq.; bur., Aug. 19, 1665."—*Darfield Parish Register.*

There is also the following inscription, in Latin, in Darfield Church, to his memory :—"Here, where the cast-off vesture of mortality is laid aside, sharing the society of so many of his ancestors, lies one to whom they bequeathed alike their virtues and their honours. He survived a prudent father to inherit both the ancient worth and enhanced dignity of his house.

"Amid bright examples displayed in purity of morals, in uprightness of heart, in a charming sweetness of disposition, in unsullied honour, in tenderest affection to a wife then perfectly happy, and in devotion to the God of all grace and power, whilst enduring with unwonted fortitude the agonies of acute gout and other maladies (for already in his life there was the sharp savour of pain and sickness), he was taken away in the very flower of his age—taken from our sight, not from our remembrance—leaving to his friends a perpetual sorrow, to his wife unutterable anguish, and to all, on account of clearest indications of noble qualities ever developing, whereby he had excited the hopes of his house, a deep sense of the loss they had sustained.

"The rest, reader, you will learn from living witnesses, now that you have been apprised that here are laid the remains of Tho. Wombwell, of Wombwell, esquire, son of W. Wombwell, esquire, and Margaret his wife, daughter of Michael Wentworth, of Wolley, esquire, born May 18, 1632, died Aug. 7, 1663; who by Martha, daughter of Th.

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Feb., 1695, at the early age of 38, leaving a widow, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Godfrey Copley, of Sprotborough, who survived her husband 47 years, dying in July, 1742, in the 80th year of her age.* Having no issue, William Wombwell left his estates to his cousin, William Wombwell, son of George Wombwell, of Leeds. He, too, died† comparatively young, on the 25th Sept., 1716, aged 45 years, and was buried at Darfield.‡ In his will, which was dated 30th August, 1708, he mentions his eldest son, William Wombwell, and his only brother, John Wombwell, of Leeds; to his mother, Mrs. Hannah Stanley, £10 a year; his "ancient grandfather," Mr. William Waugh, £10 a year; had made a jointure before his marriage upon his

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Wentworth, of Elmsal, knight, and of Martha, daughter of Tho. Hayes, of London, knight, had two sons, Th. and Th., and a daughter unnamed, whom he saw die in infancy, and left a son, William, born Aug. 25, 1658, the only solace of his mother.

"In perpetual remembrance of so noble a husband, his sorrowing wife, fulfilling this painful office, erected and now dedicates this monument, watered by tears of unending affection and affliction, A.D. 1665."

* Here lies the body of William Wombwell, of Wombwell, in the county of York, Esq., who departed this life the 18th February, Anno Dom. 1695-6, aged 38. In memory of her most dear husband, Elizabeth Wombwell, his sorrowful widow, daughter of Sir Godfrey Copley, of Sprotborough, baronet, hath placed this monument. Under which she was likewise interred, July the 15th, 1742, aged 80.

† "Here lieth the body of William Wombwell, of Wombwell, who departed this life the 25th Sep., 1716, aged 46 years. He married Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Sir Michael Wentworth, of Woolley, Knight, and left issue by her William, George, Michael, Dorothea, Margaret, and Catherine. Elizabeth and Ann deceased lie near this place."—*Mon. Inscriptions in Darfield Church.*

‡ Dr. Oxley, of Bristol, a native of Barnsley, who had been much connected with Wombwell in his early years, writing from Bristol,

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wife, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Sir Michael Wentworth, of Woolley. Mr. Godfrey Wentworth, of Brodsworth, his brother-in-law, and Elizabeth Wombwell are appointed executors. William Wombwell, as will be seen above, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Michael Wentworth, of Woolley, Kt., and left issue, William, his eldest son, who succeeded to the estates, and died at Scarborough on the 21st October, 1733, in the 33rd year of his age; George, Vicar of Norton, in Derbyshire, who died unmarried in 1756; Michael, of Wakefield, attorney, who was killed by a fall from his horse, at Sandal, Feb. 24, 1742; Catherine, the last survivor of the main line of the family, who died at York, unmarried, 5th May, 1794, aged 89 years, and was buried at Darfield; and several other daughters who also died unmarried. It will be seen that the heads of the family had for three or four generations gone off in quick

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where he had settled, to Mr. Wainwright, the author of "Strafforth and Tickhill," in 1823, says :—"The family arms and monuments of the Wombwells are scattered all over the east end of the Church of Darfield, and their names are entered in our oldest parish documents. It would seem that, having buried and covered their remains with monumental stones sufficient to pave the north-east end of the aisle, they commenced their operations in the south aisle, where all the latter branches lie interred. The ceiling of several yards in the north aisle is painted blue, chequered with clouds, the arms and crest in small square compartments, and gilded to cover and ornament the angles; three-fourths of the south aisle is ceiled in this way, although it does not seem that either the present tenants or purchasers have any pews or burial place on this side. In the other (N.) there are several unoccupied, or rather unclaimed pews, and the old Wombwell stall is adjoining the reading desk. On the north side there are some ancient ornamental oak pews, upon the doors of which are devices in alto relievo and carved work."

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succession at early ages. The last William Wombwell left a widow and two daughters,* who became his co-heiresses.

The widow of William Wombwell, who was a daughter of Sir Thomas Standish, of Duxbury, in the County of Lancaster, continued to reside at Wombwell Hall, and married, secondly, Anthony Hall, Esq. She would appear to have died at York in 1764, and was brought to be interred at Darfield.† Dr. Oxley, writing to Mr. Wainwright in 1825, says: "She fell in love with Mr. Anthony Hall, of Kirkleatham, a sporting companion of her first husband, and who, it would seem, had some hold of the estate, either for his own life or that of his wife, as he lived in great splendour at Wombwell Hall. By him she had sons and daughters; of the former—Anthony and Jonathan—one lived at or near Durham, and, I think, the other at Kirkleatham. Of the daughters, I personally knew, more than 30 years ago, Catherine Hall. She appeared at the time to be near 60 years of age. She resided a short time at Wombwell, and on her first visiting the scenes of her childhood and the seat of her ancestors she wept, probably at the recollection of fallen greatness. Whether she died at Wombwell, or Durham, or London, I cannot say, but she (as well as her mother) was buried at Darfield, and, you will perceive, was never married; and if her brothers left no

* Dr. Oxley makes the following allusion to the last William Wombwell:—"He appears to have been a wealthy, rough, country squire; a noted Nimrod, who kept much shooting company. My father once saw him, perhaps more than 70 years ago, perhaps 80. He lies buried under a black marble altar tomb, I think on the south side of the chancel in Darfield Church, with some of his family. I recollect when a boy having often seen his tomb."

† *Wainwright's MS. Collections.*

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issue, the family is extinct." William Wombwell's sister Catherine survived her brother above 60 years, dying in 1795, at the age of 89. In the south quire of Darfield Church, among the monuments in memory of the different members of the family of Wombwell is the following :—

"In memory of Catherine Wombwell, spinster, the daughter of William Wombwell, of Wombwell, Esq., and Elizabeth his wife, the daughter of Sir Michael Wentworth, of Woolley, knight. She became the sole representative of the eldest branch of the Wombwell family, and closed an exemplary life 5th of May, A.D. 1795, æt. 89. Her remains are deposited in the family burial place in this church ; and this memorial is gratefully inscribed to her virtues by her cousin, Peregrine Wentworth."

The estates went eventually to the two daughters of William Wombwell, one of whom would be the Miss Wombwell, of Wombwell, who subscribed £50 towards the defence of the country at the rebellion of 1745. Margaret married Anthony St. Leger, nephew to the first Viscount Doneraile, in 1761. He was the Lieut.-General Anthony St. Leger from whom the Doncaster St. Leger race took its name, and he resided at Park Hill, Doncaster. She died without issue, Dec. 20th, 1776, and the General in 1786, when he was succeeded at Park Hill by his nephew, Major-General John St. Leger, commonly called "Handsome Jack" St. Leger, the friend and companion of George, Prince of Wales. The other daughter, Elizabeth, married Sir Charles Turner, of Kirkleatham. Dr. Oxley, alluding to these co-heiresses, says, "Elizabeth was a celebrated beauty; the other daughter, Margaret, died within my recollection, and was splendidly interred at Darfield.

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. . . . . One of these ladies was a noted horsewoman, and by a fall from her horse at the corner of Wombwell Park injured her back. They were co-heiresses, and after their marriage the Manor of Wombwell and the family estates were sold in large or small portions, and partly purchased by a speculator whose name was, I think, Marsh, and who, in borrowing money of his neighbours, ruined almost half the township. A fragment of the estate, which was purchased by Colonel St. Leger in 1774, is in possession of my family." Sir Charles Turner is said by Brooke in his MSS. to have bought Colonel St. Leger's share for £40,000, and then to have sold the whole estate to the same Colonel St. Leger and Thomas Elliot, of Freamington, in the North Riding, gentleman, for £105,000. The estate was then sold off in parcels, when Sir George Wombwell (who had returned from India), a son of Roger Wombwell, of Barnsley, and grandson of John Wombwell, of Barnsley, and who belonged to a younger branch of the family, was the principal purchaser, and obtained possession of the manor and such part of the estate as was still unsold, and thus the family connection with the township was to some extent restored, although no part of the family has had any residence there since. The old hall of Wombwell—which was not included in these purchases—went into other hands, and was let to tenants, since which time its glory has gradually departed from it. Dr. Oxley, who well remembered this edifice, writing to Mr. Wainwright, Aug. 2nd, 1823, 57 years ago—and Mr. Oxley was then not a young man—says :—

"The family of Wombwell not more than a century ago lived at Wombwell in baronial splendour. They had their

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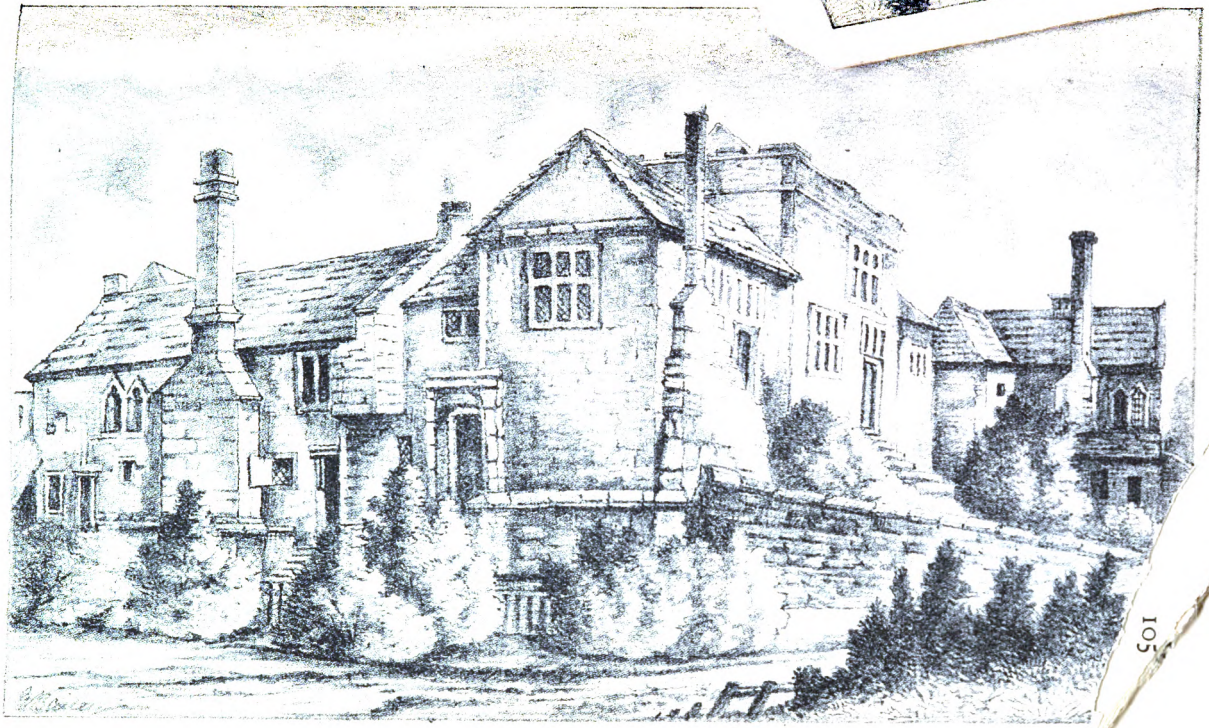

Remains of Wombwell Hall in 1820 from SW

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hounds, their park of deer (these last were killed off within my own recollection), their fishponds and gardens, and they fared sumptuously every day; they kept a vast retinue of servants, and appeared to have maintained all the grandeur and authority of feudal times."

Again, June 17, 1825, he writes: "Your account of the venerable feudal mansion of the Wombwells I read with an interest of no ordinary kind; many of the details were not less novel than interesting. Of the canopy, corbels, and fretted windows I have no recollection, and their existence afforded me a satisfaction which I cannot express, and led me to the conclusion that this imposing relic of antiquity possessed an importance of a far higher character than I had previously conceived. I hope that you examined the structure with the closest attention and minuteness. In reference to that venerable pile, there is, I fancy, sufficient proof arising out of the difference of style, of its having undergone, in comparatively modern times, considerable enlargement and alteration. The south front, so far as I recollect, appears of an earlier date than the eastern and western wings. But part of the latter next the road, and which in my childhood was called the 'Tower,' appears to me to be the earliest part of the structure. In a lower story of this was what, a century ago, was called the 'drawing room.' One of my family recollected its being used as such. Fully 40 years ago, I was present when it was filled with rustics engaged in their midnight revel, and so far as I can remember, at this distance of time, it was a lofty room, and I fancy had a massive, if not ornamental moulding and ceiling, and I perfectly recollect a border of gilded leather. From a window in an upper room, I recollect an inner

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court, covered with grass, which gave me an imposing idea of the sombre grandeur and extent of the mansion. On the north side was a leaden pipe with a stop cock, where, when a boy, I often quenched my thirst with delicious water. Near this pipe was a pointed window, not many feet from the ground. Whether this last be an illusion of memory, or a fact, I cannot say; but if the latter, what may be the history of that window? Was it to enlighten a prison, or cell, or a cellar?"

"There is a tradition," says Mr. Hunter, "(for it can be called no more), that Wombwell is connected with the Monarchy of Deira. I find it in the papers both of Dodsworth and Thoresby. 'Wombwell,' says the former, 'was a prison of the kings of Northumberland, as saith Mr. Burdet, and that Mr. Wombwell hath such deeds to prove it.' Charters belonging to the affairs of Northumberland, or even referring to them, would be a curiosity indeed. But Thoresby, when he was at Wombwell, was introduced to the very chamber in which a king had been confined."*

Dr. Oxley, referring to the distribution of the Wombwell estates, says: "The farm at Low Laiths was purchased

* Thoresby alludes to this curious tradition in his diary under date May 28, 1684: "At Rotherham. Went thence to Wombwell, a seat of an ancient family of that name, who have a tradition that one of the Saxon kings (I presume during the Heptarchy, when there were plenty of them) was starved to death in that house, where they show a kind of an old vault near the cellar, supposed to be the place; but I could not learn the king's name. . . ." On another occasion Thoresby, along with Mr. Bland, called at Wombwell,—"Were most kindly received by Mr. Wombwell. After dinner perused the pedigree of that ancient family, and having seen the dungeon where tradition says a Saxon king was imprisoned, rode thence to the extent of my destined journey, Wentworth Woodhouse."

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out of the Wombwell property, and left by Dr. Wood, of Hemsworth. There are two or three good farms in Hemingfield, which were purchased out of the Wombwell estates by Messrs. Swift and Allen; and another, a large estate, by Mr. Hemingway, but sold to Mr. Swift also; others to Messrs. Sanderson, Clark, &c. There are many small freeholds also which have reduced that ancient property considerably. This noble estate comprised nearly the whole township; but one large wood of considerable extent and a few small farms remain to the family. There is an excellent farmhouse, beautifully situated at Hemingfield, and tenanted by Mr. Birks, attorney-at-law, whose father was agent to the Wombwells. There was a map of the township, I think, in his possession, by which the estate was divided and arranged into lots for sale. The old hall is now divided and subdivided into tenements for the Wombwell poor, being in a very dilapidated state. It belongs to the estate purchased by Mr. Swift, but nevertheless there is a sufficiency of walls, &c., to denote the extensive possessions of that ancient family."

The younger branch of the family, who re-purchased part of their ancestral estate, and to which were added considerable purchases during the minority of the second Baronet, had settled in Barnsley, the first Baronet being a native of that town. They shot off from the parent stock of the family in the person of Roger Wombwell, a younger son of William Wombwell, of Wombwell.* Roger had at least one son,

* Margaret Wombwell, baptized at Darfield 28th of Nov., 1646, married Robert Cliffe, of Matlock. He died 1696, aged 76. In the *Harl MSS. Brit. Mus.* 6212, is the following inscription copied from a headstone in Bunhill Fields burial ground :—

"Here lyeth the body of Mr. Nathaniel Cliff, of London, bookseller,

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George Wombwell, attorney, of Leeds, who married Hannah,* daughter of William Waugh, Esq., and died in 1682.

George Wombwell, of Leeds, had two sons, William, of Wombwell and Leeds, to whom his cousin (dying without male issue) left the Wombwell estates; and John Wentworth Wombwell, of Leeds, afterwards of Barnsley, who was born at Leeds 15th October, 1672, and buried at Barnsley on the 21st February, 1733. Mr. Hobson thus records his death:—"1733-4, Feb. 17. Mr. Wombwell, the attorney, of Barnsley, dead;" and in the Barnsley Church Register his burial is thus entered:—"1733-4, Feb. 21st, Mr John Wombwell, attorney, buried;" and that of his widow; "1745, Mrs. Wombwell, widow, buried May 29th." There is also a monument in St. Mary's Church, Barnsley, "In memory of Mr. John Wombwell, who was interred near this place the 21st of February, 1733, aged 63 years, and of Elizabeth, his wife, who was also here interred ye 29th day of May, 1745. This monument was erected by their most affectionate son, Mr. George Wombwell, merchant in London." Mr. John Wombwell married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Richard

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who died August the 13th, 1714, in the 34th year of his age. He was the 2nd son of Robert Cliff, of Cliff, in the County of Derby, gent., by the third wife, Margaret, daughter of Roger Wombwell, of Wombwell, in the county of York, Esq."

* Within the altar rails of St. Peter's Church, Leeds, is the following inscription:—"George Wombwell, attorney-at-law, descended from the ancient Family of Wombwell, of Wombwell, dyd 17th May, 1682. Aged 36. Ærumnarum Requies Mors."—*Gents' Rippon, to which is added a journey into some parts of Yorkshire.*

George Wombwell, of Leeds, gent. Will dated 4th May, 1682. Mentions his two sons, William and John, under age; William Fenton, his clerk; wife, Hannah.

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Nottingham, of Leeds, and had issue George Wombwell, born at Leeds, in 1701, sometime consul at Alicante in Spain, and afterwards merchant in Crutched Friars, London. He erected the monument in memory of his parents in Barnsley Church, and died October 8th, 1763, leaving a son, John Wombwell, who died unmarried, and a daughter, Anne, who married, in 1770, John Strachey, LL.D., Archdeacon of Suffolk, and F.S.A., one of the chaplains in ordinary to his Majesty George III., and had ten children by him. Dr. Strachey was a man of great note, and was selected in 1777 to superintend the printing of the Rolls of Parliament. He died at Ramsgate, in 1818, in the 82nd year of his age,* and his widow, in 1826, in the 86th year of her age.

William, the second son of John Wombwell, of Barnsley, died at Wakefield, unmarried. Thomas, another son, born at Barnsley 4th of January, 1709, was an attorney at Leeds and Barnsley. He died unmarried, and was buried at Wakefield in 1740;† and Roger,‡ the youngest son, who

* On the 14th of November, 1770, Dr. Strachey was married at the Church of St. Dunstan in the West, London, to Anne, the only dau. of George Wombwell, of Crutched Friars, London, Esq., a merchant of the highest respectability. By this lady the Archdeacon had issue ten children. The Archdeacon's eldest brother, Henry Strachey, was created a Baronet on the 6th of June, 1801.

† "1740, Sep. 21, Mr. Thomas Wombwell, buried."—*Wakefield Parish Register.*

‡ The following incident is given in *Hobson's Journal*:—"1733, Aug. 6.—Mr. Wombwell's son, of Barnsley (I think his name is Roger), stabbed Mr. Richard Oates, the noted leaper, with a penknife into the breast, as they were quarrelling in an alehouse at Horbury. Mr. William Wentworth happened to be by, who prevented Mr. Wombwell from doing any more harm. It was thought the stabb had been mortal, and Mr. Wombwell was secured; but there being hopes of Mr. Oates' recovery, he is admitted to bail."

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was born 31st May, 1708, and married Mary, daughter of Francis Chadwick, Esq. Roger Wombwell is said in the pedigree of the family to have died at sea on a voyage to Gibraltar. This may have been the case, but Dr. Oxley says that he was a grocer, and carried on business at Barnsley, in the shop at the top of Market-hill, occupied in 1823 by Mr. Samuel Dunn, who was in the same line of business, this shop being on the site of the premises lately rebuilt by Mr. Alfred Squire. This piece of information, Dr. Oxley states that he had, about 1780, from an old man at Wombwell, who knew the first Sir George Wombwell when a child. The eldest son of Roger Wombwell, George, the future Baronet,* was born at Barnsley in 1734, and John, his second son, in 1737. Both sons entered the East India Company's service, and went out to India, where they amassed great wealth. Dr. Oxley, in one of his letters, says he well recollected Sir George Wombwell, who died in the vigour of his age, and that he knew personally the younger son, John, a most respectable and gentlemanly man, who resided at Heath Hall, near Wakefield, in 1791. He had been in India at least twelve years. While Mr. Wombwell was residing at Heath Hall, Mr. Oxley occasionally had conversation with him, from which he found that he was a great sufferer from the climate of India, and that his health had become much impaired thereby. In a paper on Heath Hall, read before the *Yorkshire Archæological Society*, at Wakefield, 25th August, 1869, by Mr. Fairless Barber, is the following :— "It is probable that the Italian windows and doorways

* "1734, June 11th, George, son of R. Wombwell, bap. 1737, June 18th, John the son of Mr. Roger Wombwell, bap."—*Barnsley Parish Register.*

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were introduced by Mr. John Wombwell, an East Indian Nabob, whom I learnt from an old person recently dead, had possession of the place as tenant, between 100 and 120 years ago, and who was stated to have spent large sums in alterations. The panelling in the drawing-room of the time of Horace Walpole was no doubt placed there in his occupancy, and other extensive innovations made, such as the dividing the banqueting chamber, and hiding of the 'Jezebel' sculpture, which was accidentally discovered in taking down a false or hollow ceiling."

Mr. John Wombwell, while at Heath, held a commission in the 1st West York Regiment of Militia, and sat in Parliament at the beginning of the present century.

Sir George, the eldest son of Roger Wombwell, married Susannah, only daughter of Sir Thomas Rawlinson, Knt., Alderman of London, and Lord Mayor in 1746.* Sir George was an extensive merchant and director, and afterwards Chairman of the East India Company, and M.P. for Huntingdon from 1774 to 1780. He was created a baronet 25th July, 1778, and died of consumption, at Beckenham, in Kent, on the 2nd November, 1780, when only about 46 years of age. He had issue one son, George, his successor to the Baronetcy, and three daughters; Susannah, who

* Sir Thomas Rawlinson, Knt., was nephew of Thomas Rawlinson, of Gray's Inn, the "Tom Folio" of Addison's *Tatler;* also of Richard Rawlinson, D.C.L., Oxon., F.R.S., F.S.A., author of the Rawlinson *MSS.*, Oxon., son of Sir Thomas Rawlinson, Lord Mayor of London, 1706, descended from Rawlinson, of Greenhead, co. Lancaster, ancestor of Major-General Sir Henry Creswicke Rawlinson, K.C.B., F.R.S., D.C.L., LL.D.

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married at an early age* (as will be seen from an extract from the *Gentleman's Magazine* given below) Edward Roche, in 1781; Caroline Frances, to Richard Clay, Esq.; and Emma, who died before her father. "Some time previous to his death, Sir George," says Dr. Oxley, "had determined to build a seat in Yorkshire, and had fixed on the highest ridge of Blacker Common, close to a pyramid erected by the late William, Earl of Strafford (which you remember seeing on your way to Barnsley). Here he planted forest trees, and some preparations were made for building. Whilst in conversation with a relative of mine, and descanting on the beauty and extent of the scenery and prospect, the latter remarked, 'Why, Sir George, I would walk for a prospect.' The hint was taken, and the plan abandoned, very unwisely in my opinion. At this distance of time, I have not forgotten the feelings of my youth, when I have stood on the site of the intended mansion, on the outskirts of the plantation. It has still a hold on my imagination, which all the beauties of the West of England could never produce." But to return to the family.

Lady Wombwell died on the 29th Sept., 1816, having become sole heir of her brother, Sir Walter Rawlinson, of Stowlangtoft, and of London, banker, who had died without issue, in 1805.

Sir George Wombwell was succeeded by his eldest son,

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* "Married in September in this year (1781), at Ostend, Capt. Edward Roche, aged 40, to Miss Wombwell, eldest daughter of the late Sir George Wombwell, Bart., aged 16. Just come from Mrs. Stevenson's Boarding School, with an independent fortune of £12,000 in possession, and as much in reversion on the death of her mother."—*Gentleman's Magazine*, Oct., 1781, p. 441.

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Sir George Wombwell, the second baronet (born 1769), who was only about eleven years of age at his father's death. During his minority, the estates were in the hands of trustees for ten years, who largely added to them by the purchase of land in the district, including the site of the priory of Bretton, with the large estate adjoining, in or about 1785, for upwards of £30,000, and part of this still remains in the family. Sir George's education was completed at Trinity College, Cambridge, where the degree of M.A. was conferred upon him in 1790. In public life Sir George was chiefly distinguished as a man of fashion, and was the owner of a large racing stud. He was married twice—viz., first, on the 19th July, 1791, to Lady Anne Belasysse, daughter of Henry, second Earl of Fauconberg, by Charlotte, sister to Peniston Lamb, first Viscount Melbourne, and by this marriage he succeeded to the estates of Newburgh—the residence there being a marvel of antiquity, many parts of it dating from the Plantagenets.*

Sir George Wombwell had issue by his first wife, Lady

* "Henry, the last Earl of Fauconberg, who had married Charlotte daughter of Sir Matthew Lamb, Bart., of Brockett Hall, in the county of Herts., had issue four daughters. Charlotte, the eldest, was married to Thomas Edward Wynn, a younger branch of the Newburgh family in Wales, who, on the death of Earl Fauconberg, in 1802, succeeded to the Newburgh estates, and assumed the name of Belasysse. Anne, the second daughter, was married to Sir George Wombwell, Bart., of Wombwell, and by her had issue three sons, of whom the eldest, the present Baronet, on the death of Lady Charlotte Wynn Belasysse, in 1825, succeeded to all the Fauconberg estates. The third, Lady Elizabeth Belasysse, married the late Duke of Norfolk, and was mother of the present Duke and of Earl Lucan, in Ireland. The fourth, Lady Harriet, died young."—*Gill's History of Easingwold*, p. 174.

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Belasysse, George Wombwell, so well known in fashionable circles, born in 1792; Henry William, born in 1795, died in 1835; and Frederick Richard. By his second wife, Eliza, daughter of T. E. Little, Esq., of Hampstead, Sir George had, amongst other children, Charles, born in 1813, who married an elder sister of the wife of his half-brother, Sir George Wombwell, a daughter of Thomas Orby Hunter, Esq., of Crowland Abbey, Lincolnshire. Sir George died on the 28th Oct., 1847, in Eaton Square, London, in the 77th year of his age. The third Baronet, George Wombwell, as he was familiarly called, was born on the 13th of April, 1792. At an early age he entered the 10th, or Prince of Wales' Own, Hussars, "and few men of that gallant corps," we are told by Lord William Lennox, one of his contemporaries, in his *Celebrities I have Known*, "kept the game more alive than he did. He was a neat horseman, possessed a remarkably fine hand, and could ride well to hounds. Although a constant attendant at Epsom, Goodwood, and Doncaster, he was never on the turf. He served with the 10th in the Peninsula, and like his brother officers, all dashing young men, was ever foremost in the fray." "George Wombwell," says Lord Lennox, "being heir to a large estate, very good looking, having the finest black curly head of hair ever seen, and possessing the neatest figure, with conversational powers of no mean extent, it is not to be wondered at, especially after his return from the wars, that he was fêted by all the *élite* of London society, and soon became an established favourite." He was chiefly known afterwards as a leader of fashion, and took no part in public business. He married, June 23, 1824, Georgiana, the second daughter of the late Thomas Orby

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Hunter, and had issue, George Orby Wombwell, his successor, and three other sons.

Sir George's death took place in George-street, Hanover Square, on the 14th January, 1855, very suddenly. He had retired to bed in apparently good health and spirits, and in the morning was found dead. At a coroner's inquest his death was found to have resulted from disease of the heart. His body was deposited in the family vault in Coxwold Church on the 24th January, there being present at the funeral Mr. Henry Herbert Wombwell, the deceased's third son, as chief mourner, Mr. Charles Wombwell, Mr. John Wombwell, Lord Adolphus Fitz-Clarence, etc. The Rev. G. Scott performed the burial service, and not less than 2000 persons were present during the ceremony.

There is a very characteristic portrait of Sir George by the late Count d'Orsay. *The World* newspaper, in an article on Sir George Wombwell, in the *Celebrities at Home* series, September 11, 1878, says :—

"There are no such gentlemen in our time as the late Sir George Wombwell; and, indeed, there is no place for them in modern society. They were a very fine kind of gentlemen, too, much better in many respects than those who have succeeded them. Probably the George Wombwell who 'travelled away with death' in 1855 had never cast up an account, or perplexed that handsome curly head of his with any business in the whole course of his agreeable and well-spent life. He seemed to pass most of his mornings in dressing himself—for he was wonderfully well dressed—and most of his afternoons in walking about with Dolly Fitz-clarence. Sometimes Twisleton Fiennes joined the party. When he did so, a more flourishing and potent triumvirate

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were never seen in St. James' Street. Mr. Richard Doyle once caught Sir George in the bay window at White's, and he has given us a delightful characteristic portrait of him; but the Yorkshire magnate had long before immortalised himself as the most elegant and genial man of his age. When the memoirs of the fine folk who illustrate the first half of the present century come to be published, all sorts of pleasant anecdotes will be told of George Wombwell. He was a kinder man than Selwyn, a better man than Jekyll, and altogether of purer clay than any of the companions of the Regent. He ranked with the late Dukes of Beaufort and Buckingham, but yet he was not of their set. He had the best horses in London, gave the best dinners, wore the best clothes, but was never on the turf or in the cabinet. He seemed to disdain everything that related to money, or which was likely to give trouble. He lived on the surface of life, and was either too wise or too indolent to go beneath it. One cannot even imagine George Wombwell writing a book, or directing a railway, or contesting a seat in Parliament. He left such nonsense to the vulgar, and looked supremely down upon a fussy world from the heights of a fair fortune set off by an unblemished honour. People who saw that consummate dandy strut over the street from White's to Crockford's, with his wonderful horse and cab grandly pacing after him, and who looked only at his rosy cheeks, his curls, and the hothouse flower in his button hole, would hardly believe how much of stern chivalry there was in him, or how princely a generosity warmed that gallant heart. It was this exquisite beau who helped to call his colonel to account for some backwardness in facing danger at Waterloo; it was this fine fellow, often called so selfish, who sent a thousand pounds

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to a friend at the first news of a ruin on which the friend's kindred looked quite calmly. He was so good a landlord that the peasantry and tenant farmers in Yorkshire, where his estates were situated, fondly called him "ower Sur Jarge." A man can afford to be called a dandy and an exquisite and a trifler, when he is so brave and munificent, so honest and true, as George Wombwell. A very ancient and honourable stock these Wombwells of Yorkshire, having no connection whatever with forfeited pledges made haughtily. They must have refused a peerage over and over again as something very far beneath them, or they would have been made earls at least long ago. They have been settled, with brief interruption, on an estate which bears their own name, since the reign of King Stephen. They have intermarried with the stately line of Fauconberg, and some of the best blood in England flows through their veins."

Sir George Orby Wombwell, the present Baronet, and head of the family, served in the Crimea, and was promoted for his gallantry in the memorable cavalry charge at the battle of Balaclava. "At the moment," says the *World*, "when the gallant Nolan rode up to Lord Cardigan, who was writhing under the imputation of slackness earlier in the day, George Orby Wombwell—not yet a Baronet—was apart from his regiment, acting as extra aide-de-camp to the leader of the historic charge. He had not advanced far up the Valley of Death before his charger was shot under him. Quick and active, he caught one of the riderless horses—they were numerous already—and, joining the 4th Light Dragoons (now Hussars), advanced with them to the guns. Here his newly-caught horse was killed under him, and before he could catch another he was surrounded by some twenty or

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thirty Russian Lancers, who took his sword and pistol and made him a prisoner. Presently that *beau sabreur*, Morris, a captain in the same regiment with Wombwell, was brought a prisoner to the spot where he stood. Badly hurt with sabre and lance, and streaming with blood from head to foot, Captain Morris, unheeding his own condition, was keenly alive to his cornet's chances of escape, and cried to him, 'Look out, Wombwell! Look out, and catch a horse!' The scene was now one mad confusion of galloping horses, empty saddles, and smoke clouds. Of the loose horses two or three instinctively came towards the English uniforms worn by Morris and Wombwell. Seizing his opportunity, the latter made a dash at the nearest horse, and vaulted into the saddle—'vaulted so heartily,' he confesses, 'that only the carbine kept me from going over on the other side.' Taken by surprise, the Russian custodians had hardly time to start in pursuit before the shattered squadrons of England rode back from the goal they had reached at such tremendous cost. Riding for life, Wombwell got within sight of them before he was caught by his pursuers, who sheered off when they saw the scant but still redoubtable array break through the smoke. Curiously enough, he came back with the 4th Light Dragoons, the regiment with which he charged the battery."

"Nearly fifteen years later, Sir George Wombwell, having then succeeded his father—a celebrated dandy of the Regency type, said to have been the only companion of George IV. whom the example and companionship of that monarch did not bring to ruin—and having, moreover, married Lady Julia Villiers, sister of the present Earl of Jersey, and grand-daughter, on the one side, of the 'Tragedy

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Queen,' and, on the other, of that Lady Peel who supplied Sir Thomas Lawrence with the model for his pendant to Rubens' 'Chapeau de Paille,' met with another hairbreadth 'scape from a worse position, if possible, than that of the Light Brigade. On the 5th of February, 1869, the York and Ainsty were in, as the 'hard' men thought, for a genuine good thing. After a smart run it occurred to the fox to cross the river Ure, not a considerable stream at ordinary times, but then swollen by rains to a width of sixty yards, turbid, and running at a great pace. The field made haste towards the ferry opposite Newby Hall, and men and horses crowded into the ferry boat, a capacious vessel worked by a chain. Some mistake was made with the chain, and the boat was loaded with eleven men and thirteen horses, just twice as many as it could safely carry. It is barely possible that the overladen boat might have reached the opposite bank of the Ure in safety had not the late Sir Charles Slingsby's favourite hunter, Old Saltfish, become suddenly irritable, and lashed out at Sir George Wombwell's horse. The latter returned the kick with interest; whereupon Old Saltfish jumped or fell overboard, carrying his rider with him. It is probable that the bridle of Old Saltfish, twisted round his arm, dragged him into the water. Be this as it may, the danger of the M.F.H. caused an awkward and thoughtless rush towards the side of the boat from which he disappeared; the overladen craft capsized, and horses and men were mingled in a wild struggle for life underneath the boat. Sir Charles Slingsby, who was clear of the boat, and an excellent swimmer, made for the shore, but, either from the intense cold of the water or a kick from a horse, sank before he could reach the bank; while Old Saltfish,

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the proximate cause of the disaster, after swimming in vain after his master, escaped with his life. With Sir Charles perished Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Edmund Robinson, the kennel huntsman, and the two gardeners at Newby Hall. Out of the wild chaos of kicking horses and drowning men rose Mr. Clare Vyner, who at once climbed on to the bottom of the overturned ferry-boat. A moment later Sir George Wombwell was flung up against the boat side in an almost senseless condition. He had, however, strength enough left to grasp one of the iron rings used either for working the chain or tethering cattle, and was at once seized by Mr. Vyner and hauled on to the bottom of the boat, blinded and choked with mud and slime, and, having cleared his throat, expressed his gratitude at his escape in his usual hearty off-hand manner. For three seasons after the accident at Newby Ferry, Sir George Wombwell hunted the York and Ainsty, and has left a brilliant record of a reign during which neither slackness nor short days were heard of."

The second son of the late Sir George Wombwell, Lieutenant Adolphus Ulick Wombwell, also served in the Crimea, and is now major in the 12th Lancers.

Newburgh Park, the residence of the Wombwell family, has many interesting associations, not the least being those connected with Laurence Sterne. Shandy Hall, where Sterne resided for seven years, is a picturesque old house at Coxwold, near Sir George Wombwell's seat; but hitherto there has been nothing about the outward appearance of the old house to identify it with the author of the immortal "Tristram." Sir George has, however, recently had the following suitable inscription beautifully cut in stone over

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the doorway :—"Shandy Hall. Here dwelt Laurence Sterne, many years incumbent of Coxwold. Here he wrote 'Tristram Shandy' and 'The Sentimental Journey.' Died in London, 1768, aged 55 years." But there are other memories associated with Newburgh which the Wombwell family highly treasure. In the long gallery is a glass case containing the saddle, holster, pistols, bit, and bridle of Cromwell. The saddle and holster cases are by no means of Puritan simplicity, being of crimson velvet, heavily embroidered in gold. Near these relics hangs the portrait of Mary Cromwell, wife of the second Lord Fauconberg. It was she who, with keen womanly instinct, sharpened yet more by filial affection, foresaw that, the Restoration once achieved, the men who had fled before Oliver at Naseby and Worcester would not allow his bones to rest in Westminster. At dead of night his corpse was removed from the vault in the Abbey, and that of some member of the undistinguished crowd substituted for it. In solemn secrecy Cromwell's remains were conveyed to Newburgh, where they yet repose, the Royalists, who hung the supposed body of Cromwell, as well as that of Ireton, on the gallows at Tyburn, having thus been cheated of their prey. The tomb of Cromwell occupies the end of a narrow chamber at the head of a flight of steep stairs, and is an enormous mass of stonework, built and cemented into the walls, apparently with the object of making it impenetrable. "There is no reason," says *The World* "to doubt the truth of this story, preserved in the Belasysse family for two centuries and a quarter. It is not a legend, but a genuine piece of family history, and implicitly believed on the spot. It is needless to say that the over-curious have again and again begged

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the lords of Newburgh to have the tomb opened; but this request has met with invariable refusal, even when preferred by the most illustrious personages. 'No, no,' observed Sir George Wombwell, heartily as ever, but quite firmly, 'we do not make a show of our great relative's tomb, and it shall not be opened. The Protector's bones shall rest in peace at least for my time.'"* There are many objects of interest at Newburgh. In the dining-room the fire screens are the ends of the 17th Lancers' Shabracque, with the silver death's head on them; over the sideboard hangs a portrait of the late Baronet, the bosom friend of "Dolly" Fitzclarence, who lies hard by in Coxwold Church; on the folding screen beneath are portraits, caricatures, and sketches accumulated during the last three generations, one of these representing the late Sir George Wombwell and Lord Adolphus side by side, dressed in high-collared coats, George IV. wigs, and curly brimmed hats; while the picture gallery is hung with portraits of the houses of Wombwell and Fauconberg.†

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* *The World*, Sep. 11, 1878.

† "Sir George Wombwell is in possession of some curiosities which have been handed down in succession by the Fauconbergs to the present owner. Amongst these are a sabre used by Oliver Cromwell, and having his head engraved upon the blade, with this inscription: 'Oliver Cromwell, General for the English Parlement: 1652;' above it, '*Soli Deo Glorior;*' below it, '*Fide sed cui vide.*' On the other side of the blade are the same head and inscription as above, and a man on horseback, with the inscriptions, '*Spes mea est Deo;*' and, '*Vincere aut Mori;*' a broad sword also of Oliver's, with the same head and inscription, except that the '*Spes mea est Deo*' is omitted, and in its stead is '*Pro aris et focis;*' also a gold watch, said to have been worn by the Protector, in a shagreen case richly studded, with a *viscount's* coronet upon the back, which would intimate that it had

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In 1877, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales stayed a week with Sir George Wombwell to enjoy the excellent partridge shooting for which the estate is so celebrated; and on that occasion, 3,000 loyal people from Newburgh and the adjoining estates received him at Coxwold station in the most enthusiastic manner.

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been presented to his son-in-law, and a heart transfixed with two arrows. Appendant to it is a seal with a lion rampant, double tailed, also given by Oliver . . . . . In the same apartment, called Cromwell's room, is preserved Cromwell's saddle, bridle, and a pair of horse pistols, with pockets for them in the saddle. The saddle is a curious piece of elaborate workmanship, and the pistols are of superior make. Cromwell's room also contains an ancient British circular shield, the construction of which must convince us that our rude forefathers had devoted their energies to the beautiful and ornamental, if not the useful arts of life . . . . . .

"Cromwell's vault, in a concealed part of the upper apartments of the priory, is shown to visitors of this antiquated spot. The current report at Newburgh is, that the bones of Cromwell were secretly conveyed to the priory, where they were interred in the place now shown as his tomb. It is very possible that this may have been accomplished through the influence of his daughter and son-in-law, who appear to have been in the secret of the Restoration, and would naturally be apprehensive of the indignities which might be heaped upon his remains, from which their conveyance to Newburgh would be a likely expedient to secure them . . . . . .

"The arms of Sir George Wombwell are :—*Gules*, a bend between six unicorns heads, couped, *argent.*"—Gill's *History of Easingwold*, pp. 174-184.

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No. V.

Sir Samuel Armytage, and the Family of Armytage, of Keresforth and Barnsley.

SIR SAMUEL ARMYTAGE, of Barnsley, belongs to the first of the four families which passed into the Baronetage from the town of Barnsley. He descended from a younger branch of the family of Armytage, of Kirklees, his ancestor being Edward Armytage, third son of John Armytage, of Kirklees, Esq., by Emma, daughter of John Gregory, of Kingston-upon-Hull. Francis Armytage, of Kirklees, his relation, was created a baronet 15th December, 1641, and on the death of his (Francis's) grandson, Sir George Armytage, the last of three brothers, who successively held the title, but who all died unmarried, the baronetcy devolved upon his cousin, who became Sir Thomas Armytage, of South Kirkby, at whose decease, unmarried, in 1737, the title became extinct. The estates

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of the family, however, having passed under the will of Sir John Armytage,* the fourth Baronet, to his cousin, Samuel Armytage (who was baptized at Barnsley, 5th May, 1695), he was created a baronet on the 4th of July, 1738; and from him lineally descends Sir George Armytage, the fifth and present Baronet of the second creation. From Sir Samuel, of Barnsley, also descends the present family of Wentworth, of Woolley, Godfrey Armytage, grandson of Sir Samuel, assuming the name of Wentworth in compliance with the will of his maternal grandfather, Godfrey Wentworth, on coming into possession of the Woolley and Hickleton estates. The descent of the family of Armytage, according to a curious pedigree attested by Sir Henry St. George, Norroy King of Arms, February 2nd, 1637, and an ancient parchment, with arms painted, etc., both of which documents were seen and are mentioned, by Thoresby, in his *History of Leeds*, are deduced from John Armytage, of Wrigbowls, living in the 10th year of the reign of King Stephen, which place and his arms he is said to have had by the gift of Roger Omfynes, steward to Remigius, bishop of Dorchester, and founder of Elsam Abbey, in Lincolnshire. In descent from this John Armytage, of Wrigbowls, we have William Armytage, of Kirklees, living in the time

* "Sir John Armitage, of Kirklees, was through life an active enemy of the Non-conformists, in his character of magistrate, and as having command of the trained bands, or militia. Lady Armitage was a daughter of Thornhill, of Fixby, in the parish of Halifax. She brought him eight sons, none of whom left issue to inherit his title of baronet. On their death the estates went to a distant relation, in whom the title was revived in 1738."—Note in Hunter's *Life of Oliver Heywood*, p. 152.

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of Edward VI., and who married Catherine, daughter of Henry Beaumont, of Crosland. John Armytage, his grandson, was in the Commission of the Peace, and treasurer for lame soldiers, in the 41st and 42nd years of the reign of Elizabeth. He was the father of Edward Armytage, of Keresforth Hill, who married, firstly, Elizabeth, sole daughter and heiress of Edward Hanson, of Little Royd, on the 22nd October, 1607 (and who was buried 26th March, 1616, at Barnsley); and secondly, Jane, daughter of John Popley, of Woolley Morehouse, and widow of Thomas Cutler, of Fieldhead. Edward Armytage, of Keresforth Hill, attended before Richard St. George, the herald, at his visitation at Barnsley in 1612, and proved his arms and pedigree; and fifty years later, when Sir William Dugdale, Norroy King of Arms, was making his Visitation of the county of York, the then head of the family of Armytage, of Keresforth, also appeared before him with proof of arms and pedigree, and had them certified. This was done at the sitting at Leeds, on the 10th August, 1665. At Sir William's sittings at Barnsley, on the 5th August and the 15th September, in the same year, representatives of the families of Keresforth, of Puel Hill; Burdet, of Birthwaite; Edmunds, of Worsborough; Wentworth, of Woolley; Cutler, of Stainborough; and Monckton, of Hodroyd, also appeared before him for the same purpose. Edward Armytage had, by his first wife, among other children, John, his eldest son and heir, who was baptized at Barnsley, 12th May, 1610, and died 7th, and was buried 10th May, 1664, in Barnsley Church. John was succeeded by his eldest son, Edward, who was also of Keresforth Hill, who died

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8th March, 1673, unmarried.* He had many other children, among whom were John, his second son, who was baptized at Barnsley, 4th March, 1646, and died without issue, his will being dated 24th December, 1681.† William, his third son, who was buried at Barnsley, 8th April, 1680; his widow afterwards marrying Willliam Collier, of Barnsley. Cornelius, the fourth son, died young. George, of Keresforth Hill, gent., was the fifth son. He was baptized at Barnsley, 14th April, 1661, and

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* "John Armytage, of Keresforth Hill, in the township of Barnsley, made his will, 27th April, 1664, giving his soul to God and his body to be buried in the Church of Barnsley. Edward Armytage, of Keresforth Hill, gent., made his will 22nd February, 1673, giving his soul to God Almighty his Creator, hoping through Jesus Christ for salvation, and his body to be buried in the south Quire of the chapel of Barnsley." —Torre's *Testamentary Burials.*

"Mr. Edward Armytage and Elizabeth Hanson were married the xxii. day of October, Anno Dni. 1607, Anno Regni vii.

"Elizabeth Armytage, wife of Mr. Edwarde Armytage, was buried the 26th day of March, 1616.

"Edward Armytage, Gent., buried ye 3rd August, 1643.

Mr. Edward Armytage was bur. ye 12 March, 1673.

Roger Armytage bur. the 3rd October, 1633.

Misteris Armaitage, of Kesforth Hall, died 30th Dec., 1654.

Mr. Francis Armitage, bur. Oct. 24, 1656.

Mrs. Elizabeth Armitage, bur. Mar. 15, 1686.

Mrs. Eliz. Armitage, bur. May 2, 1694.

Mr. Edward Armitage, bur. Mar. 13, 1697.

Mr. John Armitage, bur. June 30, 1700."—*Barnsley Parish Register.*

†"John Armytage, of Keresforth Hall, gent., in his will mentions his brother Edward, and father, John Armytage, deceased; friend, Ralph Eaton, of Darfield, clerk; brother, George Armytage; leaves lands in Barnsley and Dodworth in trust for his sister Elizabeth A., spinster; nephew, John A.; brother, Gervase A. Dated 24th Dec., 1681."—*Addl. MSS. Hunteriana*, No. 24,586, p. 72.

Mr. John Armitage, of Keresforth Hill, was bur. 9th Nov., 1683.

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was buried there, 18th April, 1709, having married Magdalen, daughter of Francis Usher, of Barnsley, on 9th September, 1690.* The sixth son, Gervase Armytage, of Keresforth Hill, baptized at Barnsley, 15th November, 1662, was married at Cawthorne on the 21st March, 1687, to Priscilla Bosvile, daughter of William Bosvile, Esq., of Gunthwaite.† She survived her husband (he dying 1691), and married secondly Richard Hartley, Esq., of Cannon Hall. The above Gervase Armytage had been a considerable traveller in his day. George Armytage, of Keresforth Hill, and Magdalen Usher had issue, Samuel, the future Baronet, who was a twin, and was baptized on the 5th

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* "Francis Usher, of Barnsley, mercer, baptized at Barnsley, Oct. 3, 1618; buried there Oct. 15th, 1685. The family of Usher was long and respectably connected with Barnsley, and was allied with those of Beckett and Clarke. In the seventeenth century, one of the numerous copper tokens which were issued by tradesmen on account of the scarcity of coin, belonged to Francis Usher, mercer, and was as follows :—

"O[bverse] FRANCIS VSHER OF=A. Talbot passant.

R [everse] BARNSLYE. MERCER=F. H. V.

Mr. William Armitage, bur. April ye 8th, 1680.

Cornelius, son of Mr. John Armitage, born April 21st, 1657, bur. June 22nd, 1657.

Mr. George Armitage, bur. April 18th, 1709.

Mr. Geo. Armitage and Mrs. Magdalene Usher, married Sept. 9th, 1690.

Mrs. Magdalene Armitage, widow, bur. Oct. 23rd, 1724.

Mrs. Liddy Armitage, bur. May 6th, 1743."—*Barnsley Parish Register.*

† "Mr. Gervis Armatidg and Prissilla Bosville married March 21st, 1687."—*Cawthorne Parish Register.*

"Mr. Gervase Armitage buried July 11th, 1691."—*Barnsley Parish Register.*

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May, 1695, as the following extract from the *Barnsley Parish Register* will show :—

"1695, May 5. Samuel and Hannah, children of Mr. George Armitage, baptized."

Sir Samuel's succession to the Kirklees estates was brought about through the male issue from the eldest son, and from the second son of John Armytage, of Kirklees, having become exhausted, when Samuel became heir to the Kirklees and other estates by the will of Sir John Armytage, and was thus raised at once from comparative poverty to affluence, and soon afterwards created a Baronet.*

The following scraps of contemporary information relating to the family of Armytage will be interesting. We give them from the Journal of John Hobson, of Dodworth Green :—

"1732, September. Some time this month died of the small pox Mr. Armitage, of Kirklees, son of Mr. Armitage, late minister of Bramham-biggin, nigh Wetherby. Sr. John Armitage design'd him for his heir, who now being at a loss

* Three brothers and a cousin succeeded to the title in rapid succession. The first was Sir Thomas Armytage, who died unmarried in 1693, and was succeeded by his brother Sir John Armytage, who died, likewise unmarried, 11th Dec., 1732, aged about 80. He was succeeded by his only surviving brother, Sir George Armytage, who also died unmarried, when the title devolved upon his cousin, Sir Thomas Armytage, at whose decease in 1737 the title became extinct, the estates passing under the will of Sir John Armytage, the fourth Baronet, to his cousin Samuel Armytage, of Barnsley. A full and comprehensive view of this family will be found in the tabular pedigree in *Whitaker's Thoresby's Ducatus Leodiensis*, p. 86.

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for one to succeed him, sends for Mr. Armitage, of Barnsley, apothecary."*

"1732, Dec. 4. It is reported that Sir John Armitage, of Kirklees, is dead, in the 80th year of his age."

"1733, Aug. 22. Mr. Samuel Armitage, supervisor in the Excise, in Wales, having occasion to buy a horse in order to carry him back, as he was riding upon one of Henry Rimington's in the Back-lane, behind Mr. Roper's, in order to see how he liked him, spurr'd him into a gallop. The bitts being faulty brooke in the side joynt, and he fell off, and is very much hurt. The late Sir John Armitage left his estate to him and his heirs male at the decease of his bro' Sir George Armitage."

The last of the old line of Baronets, of Kirklees, Sir Thomas Armytage, died a bachelor on the 12th October, 1737. He was the last surviving son of Francis Armytage, of South Kirkby, and was in the 64th year of his age. He was buried at South Kirkby, and by his death the title became extinct. Mr. Samuel Armytage, of Barnsley, who succeeded to the estates, must have been a man of parts and ability, for in the following year the Baronetcy was conferred upon him, and he was also High Sheriff of the county of York in 1740, only two years afterwards. Sir Samuel had married Anne, daughter of Thomas Griffiths, of Llanvyllan,

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* John Armytage, of Barnsley, apothecary. Will dated April 15, 1748. Mentions his sister, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Fryer; sister, Magdalen, wife of Francis Naylor; nephew, Sir John Armytage; children of my late sister, Hannah, wife of Francis Roper; George Naylor, son of my late sister, Magdalen. Proved June 1, 1748.

"Mr. John Armitage buried April 25, 1748."—*Barnsley Parish Register.*

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in Montgomeryshire, but she did not live long to enjoy her accession of fortune, for she was buried on the 27th Nov., 1738, only four months after her husband was created a Baronet, in the family vault in the Church of Hartshead.*

On the fly-leaf of a book which had belonged to Lady Armytage—the first volume of the fifth edition of Dr. Watts' Sermons, published 1734—is the following births of her children, which we give from *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica, N.S.*, March, 1875, pp. 116-118:

"Anne Armytage
Book
1735.

Rachel Armytage, born June 2, 1724.
Mary Armytage, born Sept. 17, 1725.
John Armytage, born July 13, 1732.
Anna Maria Armytage, born Sep. 29, 1733.
George Armytage, born Dec. 25, 1734.
Samuel Armytage, born May 24, 1736."

Of the above, Rachel, the eldest daughter, married James Farrer, Esq., of Ewood and Barnborough Grange, in 1743. Mary, the second daughter, who was born twelve years before her father succeeded to the Kirklees estate, married Francis Hall, of Swaithe, rector of Tankersley, in 1749. She died May 3rd, 1786, and was buried in Doncaster Church.† Anna Maria married Thomas Carter, an Irish gentleman.

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* "1738, Nov. 27. The Honoured Ann Armytage, lady to Sir Samuel Armytage, Bart., of Kirklees, buried."—*Hartshead Parish Register.*

† "Mary, widow of Francis Hall, Rector of Tankersley, second daughter of Sir Samuel Armitage, of Kirklees, Bart., born 17th Sept., 1725, died 3rd May, 1786."—*Mon: Inscription in Doncaster Church.*

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Samuel, the youngest son, died unmarried when about 22 years of age.*

Sir Samuel Armytage died on the 19th of August, 1747, and was succeeded by his eldest son, John, who became the second Baronet of the second creation. He was M.P. for York.

At the time Lord Howe meditated an attack on St. Malo, in September, 1758, Sir John Armytage was with the expedition as a volunteer, under General Blythe, when an endeavour was made to re-embark some troops in the Bay of St. Cas, which had been landed a few days before, and in the fight which ensued Sir John Armytage was killed. His melancholy fate appears to have excited a great deal of commiseration at the time, and several short poems composed on it still exist, among which is an elegy from the pen of the

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* "Mar. 23, 1758-9. Samuel Armytage, youngest son of the late Sir Samuel Armytage, of Kirklees, bart., bur."—*Hartshead Parish Register.*

Inscriptions on the end stones of the niches in the family vault in the chancel of the Parish Church of Hartshead-cum-Clifton, in the county of York :—

"Sir Samuel Armytage, Barrt.,
Died August 19th, 1747.
Sir George Armytage, Barrt.,
Died 21st January, 1783. Aged 50 years.
The Honourable Lady,
Late wife of Sir George Armytage, Barrt.,
Who died August 13th, 1790,
Aged 28 years."

Many other later members of the family are also given in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, for March, 1875, contributed by G. J. Armytage, Esq., F.S.A.

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well-known Eugene Aram, from which we give the following extract:—*

Thou stood'st, like Scæva, in the dangerous breach,
Slain, but not vanquished; fallen, but not fled!
That ground thou kept alive, thou kept when dead.
Hast thou obtained thy laurels with the pall?
Didst thou more bravely dare, or greatly fall?
Calder with sadder murmurs rolls her floods,
And deeper gloom invests thy Kirklees woods.
France, too, deplores thee little less than we,
And Britain's genius gave a sigh for thee.

The following elegy on the same subject is from the *York Courant* of 3 Oct., 1758:—

"To every Briton
Whose breasts know what it is to glow
With Honor's generous warmth,
For ever dear, for ever sacred
Must the remembrance be
Of that much lamented youth,
SIR JOHN ARMYTAGE, BARONET,
With whom
Rank, condition, fortune,

* "An elegy on the death of Sir John Armytage, Bart., of Kirklees, M.P. for York, who died gloriously in the service of his country on the 11th Sep., 1758, near St. Cas, on the coast of France, in the 27th year of his age. Humbly inscribed to the remainder of that ancient and respectable family by Eugene Aram."

Walpole (*Letters, Vol. III.*, pp. 297-8) says:—"In our loss are included some of our volunteers, a Sir John Armytage, a young man of fortune, just come much into the world, and engaged to the sister of the hot-headed and cool-tongued Lord Howe."

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With each advantage besides
(And he had many),
All weighed as nothing
Against that love of his country
Which sent him into the field,
The volunteer of active patriotism.
In the senate uncorrupt,
In war intrepid,
To others he left to prove
Their zeal by speeches,
He fought;
And, alas! fighting, died
In the behalf of Britain
On the Gallic shore, by him pressed with hostile foot:
But not with him can die his fame,
No!
Not death, not tombs, nor graves were ever made
To claim the whole of him,
Still, still he lives
In friendship's mournful memory;
Whilst added to the splendid list of heroes,
Gracefully fallen in their country's cause,
His title to patriot virtue
Stands written with his blood,
In characters indelible,
On the records of immortality.

G. T."

After the untimely death of Sir John Armytage, an election for the city of York, for which he had been member from 1754, took place on Dec. 1, 1758, when Mr. William Thornton, of Thornville, was returned in opposition to Robert

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Lane, Esq., son of George Lane Fox, Esq., of Bramham Park.

Sir John Armytage dying unmarried, he was succeeded by his younger brother George, who also became Member for York a few years later. He was High Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1775. He married Anna Maria, eldest daughter and co-heir of Godfrey Wentworth, Esq., of Woolley and Hickleton, and died 21st March, 1783, and was buried at Hickleton. He left issue, Sir George Armytage, of Kirklees, Bart., who married for his first wife a daughter of Lord Suffield; John Armytage, of Northampton; and Godfrey, of Woolley and Hickleton, the youngest son. The last-named was baptized at Hartshead Church by the surname of Armytage, 11th June, 1773, took the surname and arms of Wentworth, instead of those of Armytage, in compliance with the will of his maternal grandfather, Godfrey Wentworth, Esq. (who died without male issue), by virtue of the King's sign manual bearing date March 10, 1789. He married Amelia, daughter of W. R. B. Fawkes, Esq., of Farnley, and they had, among other children, the late Godfrey Wentworth, Esq., of Woolley Hall, who would be a great-grandson, whilst the present Sir George Armytage, of Kirklees, is great-great-grandson of Sir Samuel Armytage, to whom, as a native, Barnsley lays claim.

The Armytages resided at Keresforth until the early part of the last century, when some litigation took place in the family. About the year 1720, after an expensive lawsuit of 22 years' duration, the estate was divided between John Armytage, of Barnsley, and William Collier, of the same place. Collier had married the widow of Wm. Armytage, of Keresforth. John Armytage subsequently sold his share

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to the Earl of Strafford, who afterwards also became possessed of Collier's moiety, and the whole is now the property of F. W. T. V. Wentworth, Esq.*

The following appeared in a local paper: "Died on Friday last (Oct., 1860) at Barnsley, aged 78, Anne, daughter of the late Mr. John Armytage, of Hickleton, a member of the ancient family of the same name, deceased's grandfather (Richard Armytage) being a nephew of Sir Samuel Armytage of that place, and of Kirklees, in this county."

A Rev. Dr. Thomas Armytage, of New York, claims to be descended from the family of Armytage, of Barnsley. He was, when young, noted for his Christian zeal, and licensed to preach, and at the age of 20 left his native land, went to the United States, settled in New York, where at this day few stand higher, we are told, among the American clergy than the Rev. Dr. Thomas Armytage.

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* The wife of William Collier died on the 27th May, 1707, when administration of her goods was granted to her husband on the 14th March, 1707-8. He, however, lived only two years after, dying in 1709.

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No. VI.

Sir Edward Rodes, and the Family of Rodes of Great Houghton.

THE first member of this family who resided at Great Houghton, was Sir Godfrey Rodes, son of Francis Rodes, of Staveley Woodthorpe, in the County of Derby, who was one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in the reign of Elizabeth. The Judge was married twice and had issue by both wives. The eldest son was Sir John Rodes, of Barlborough. The second son was Sir Peter Rodes, of Hickleton. Sir Godfrey Rodes, the fourth son, was placed by his father upon his manor of Great Houghton, having built for him there a large and handsome mansion, and in his will he gives both Houghton and Billingley to Godfrey, with lands at Darfield, subject to a rent charge for the benefit of two younger children. His purchases there had been considerable, including the manor with the appurtenances, and 20 messuages, 16 cottages, 20 tofts, one water-mill, one wind-mill, 30 dove-cotes, 30 gardens, 30 orchards, 700 acres of

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land, 300 acres of meadow, 500 acres of pasture, 300 acres of wood, 200 of moor, and 53s. 4d. rent, with appurtenances in Great Houghton, Little Houghton, Billingley, and Darfield.

Much of the mansion at Great Houghton still remains, and, disfigured and dilapidated as it now is, there is still sufficient left to give a tolerably correct idea of its former extent and magnificence. The great hall, the easy winding staircase, and cheerless though healthy lodging rooms, with their plaster floors, are yet in being, together with the low and wide windows and confined quadrangular court, the whole of which have been degraded to the uses of a village alehouse. It is not much we know of Sir Godfrey Rodes during his residence at Great Houghton, but the following curious license which connects him with that place will be interesting to our readers:

"Anno 1632.

"Memorandum. That upon the certificate of Mr. Joseph Micklethwaite practitioner in physique,* Sir Godfrey Rodes, of Great Houghton, in the parish of Darfield, knight, and Mrs. Ann Rodes, his daughter, are subject to, and greatly afflicted with such diseases as yt ye eating of fish would be very prejudicial to their healths. We the parson and vicar of the severall medieties of the sayd church of Darfield have given them our license (so far as in us lyeth) to eat flesh in the time of Lent, and other Fast days wch severall licenses were dated the 11th day of this present January, and we doe

* Mr. Joseph Micklethwaite, practitioner in "physique," was son of Elias Micklethwaite, of York, and grandson of John Micklethwaite, of Ingbirchworth. Elias Micklethwaite was lord Mayor of York in 1615, and again in the year 1627.

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here register according to the statute in that case provided this 21st day of ye sayd January 1632.

WALTER STONEHOUSE, Rect.
RICH: TOWNEND, Vicar.
JOHN STORRE, Churchwarden."

Sir Edward Rodes, the son of Sir Godfrey, however, was a man of greater note than his father. He stood out conspicuously as a Parliamentarian on the commencement of the Civil Wars, notwithstanding that the great Royalist Strafford was his brother-in-law. Few persons entered more eagerly into the views taken by Parliament when affairs were advancing to a crisis than Sir Edward, and it was for the most part to him and his friends, the two Hothams, that the scheme for maintaining the peace of Yorkshire, arranged by the two great parties at Rothwell before the war begun, was frustrated. But he had already suffered from the effects of civil strife, for his residence at Great Houghton had been attacked by a party of royalists under Capt. Grey, in which his outhouses were burnt; his goods plundered to the amount of £600; his lady uncivilly treated; some of his servants wounded, and one slain. This took place as early as the beginning of September, 1642, and is said to have been the first conflict between the opposing forces.

"Here," says G. W. Johnson (*Fairfax Correspondence*, vol. ii., pp. 413), "begun the first breach; in lieu of opposing foreigners, a regiment of Northumberland horse is permitted to pass the very length of the county; who upon intimation given that Sir Edward Rodes did affect the militia by commission from his Majesty, fall upon him to take the arms; and after a short defence, his barn was burnt for so doing; the horror whereof stirred up divers good subjects,

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his neighbours, to the advance of the quenching of the said fire. But within two days a *Quo Warranto* issues from York (from the council of war there) against them; to answer which they are glad to plead the horror for their excuse, whereof as yet they know of no acceptance." One of the stipulations at the treaty of Rothwell was that reparation should be made to Sir Edward Rodes, for the injury done him. This act of hostility caused great consternation and alarm in the district, and the people of Rotherham immediately proceeded to throw up works, and a garrison was settled there by Lord Fairfax. Lord Newcastle published a list of gentlemen of Yorkshire whom he called traitors, which contains the name of Sir Edward Rodes.* "Of all the gentry of Yorkshire," says Clarendon, "there were only two Dissenters on the Parliament side to that engagement of neutrality, young Hotham and Sir Edward Rodes, who, though of the better quality, was not so much known or considered as the other. But they quickly found seconds enough, when the Parliament refused to ratify the treaty, and declare it to be injurious to the common cause." They further gave power to Sir Edward Rodes and Mr. Hotham to enforce the observance of all orders of Parliament, and to apprehend all delinquents. The proceedings of Parliament, published on the 5th of Oct., 1642, which we have now before us, contain the "Declaration and votes of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament concerning the late Treaty of Peace in Yorkshire, wherein they renounce the said agreement as prejudiciall and dangerous to the whole kingdome, that any one county should stand as neuters, and

* *Markham's Fairfax*, p. 93.

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withdraw themselves from the assistance of the rest. Together with the fourth article of the Lord General's instructions sent to Mr. Hotham and Sir Ed. Rodes, with power to them to publish it, and to pardon all those that shall submit within 10 dayes."

"Oct. 4th, 1642. Resolved upon the question by the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, That *Master Hotham* and *Sir Edward Rodes*, and others the committees for raysing of money, plate, and horse, for the defence of the King and kingdome in the County of Yorke; and such as they or any two of them shall nominate, shall be Commissioners for the advancing and raysing of monies, horse, and plate upon the propositions, and shall have power to appoynt Commissioners to value the horse, and treasurers to receive the monies and plate."

"*Resolved, upon the Question, &c.*, That *Master Hotham* and *Sir Edward Rodes* shall have the like instructions as other counties, with this addition that they shall have power to seize and apprehend all delinquents that are so voted by the Parliament, and all such others as delinquents as have, or doe show themselves, opposite and disobedient to the orders and proceedings of Parliament."

"*Resolved*, That the 4 articles of the Lord General's Instructions shall be extracted and sent to *Master Hotham* and *Sir Edward Rodes*, with power to them to publish them." *

* The following is the title of a Civil war tract, dated 1643: "More plots found out and plotters apprehended. A true Relation for a most desperate and dangerous plot for the delivering up and surprisall of the Townes of Hull and Beverley; with the manner of the apprehension of Sir John Hotham, Sir Edward Rodes, and Captain Hotham, who are

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Among the Commissioners for the West Riding, under an Ordinance for the speedy raising and levying money, dated 7th May, 1643, are the names of Sir Edward Rodes, Sir Gervase Cutler, Sir John Savile, Thomas Bosvile, and Godfrey Bosvile. Among those named under an Act of Parliament of the same year "for the punishment of mendacious clergymen," are—Sir Edward Rodes, Sir Gervase Cutler, and Godfrey Bosvile.*

The conduct of Sir Edward Rodes became afterwards ambiguous. Many of the first and most honourable of those who had engaged in the Parliament cause would gladly have retraced their steps, when they saw new principles avouched and new men rise above themselves, and restored

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now bringing up to the Parliament. With the present security of thirty thousand pound already found out; and other particulars; being sent in a letter from Hull, dated the first of this instant moneth of July, 1643. London: Printed for Henry Oberton in Pipes Head Alley, 8pp. 1643."

* "Names of a Special Jury in a cause between Thomas, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, and Richard Bacon, of persons from this district :—

Jarvasius Cutler de Stainbrough, mil.
Georgius Wentworth de Wolley.
Ed. Rodes de Houghton, mil.
Will Wombwell de Wombwell.
Henricus Savile de Wath, arm.
Jacobus Field de Thurnscoe, gent.
Franciscus Nevile de Chevite, arm.
Tho: Jobson de Cudworth, arm.
Tho: Barnby de Cawthorn, arm.
Geo. Burdett de Denby, arm.
Matt: Wentworth de West Bretton, arm.
Will: Cudworth de Worsbrough, gen."

Addl. MSS., 24,470, p 220.

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the Commonwealth to the state in which it was at the beginning of the troubles, awaiting the slow but sure operation of time in correcting all that was eventually wrong in the terms of the social compact. The fate of the two Hothams* is well known; and with them Sir Edward Rodes was arrested at Hull, and sent, together with them, to the Tower. Parliament, however, did not bring him to trial, and it may be presumed that they were satisfied of his innocency, as he was set at liberty; an order was made for restoring his money and plate, and he was afterwards employed in the military operations against the castle at Pontefract.† This would be in 1648, when the troops of the Parliament were principally under the command of General Lambert, who had been sent to watch the motions and check the progress of Sir Philip Musgrave and Sir Marmaduke Langdale in the north. Sir Edward Rodes and Mr. Henry Cholmley were appointed by the Committee of the Militia in Yorkshire to levy troops, with orders to

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* "Sir John Hotham married for one of his wives, Catherine, daughter of Sir John Rodes, of Barlborough. In the year 1643, Sir John, while governor of Hull, was found holding correspondence with the Royalists for the object of handing over that town to the King. Colonel Boynton having been made acquainted with the plot, was ordered to apprehend Sir John and also Sir Edwd. Rodes, who had a company there, and was suspected of a design to yield up the town, too, but nothing was proved against him. On Sir John soon after coming into Beverley, Colonel Boynton took him prisoner; and presently Sir Edward Rodes was also seized, and both sent to Hull, and put on board the Hercules, which soon after conveyed them and Captain John Hotham to London, where they were committed to the Tower. The two Hothams were executed, but Sir Edward Rodes was acquitted."—*Burke's Baronetage*, vol. i., pp. 474-5.

† *South Yorkshire*, vol. ii., p. 138.

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draw near to Pontefract; and if they found themselves not sufficiently strong to force the siege of the castle, then to endeavour to keep in the garrison, and preserve the surrounding country from being plundered.

Sir Edward Rodes served under Cromwell at the battle of Preston, and was sent in pursuit of the Duke of Hamilton. On the occasion of a meeting of Presbyterians in Leeds, Cromwell, then before Pontefract, charged Sir Edward, who was then High Sheriff of Yorkshire, that whilst he allowed them to worship, if offensive, he should take care that disaffected persons should not plot against his Government. Sir Edward had a colonel's commission from Cromwell in 1654, and was one of the Privy Council. It would seem that he was much in Scotland during the Protectorate; for he was returned to one of Cromwell's Parliaments for the shire of Perth, at the same time that his eldest son was returned for Linlithgow, Stirling, and Clackmannan. On the dismantling of Pontefract Castle, Sir Edward purchased lead to the amount of £940. He lived till after the Restoration, and in the second year of the reign of Charles II. was again High Sheriff of Yorkshire.* As he continued a Dissenter, it is probable that his connection with the Earl of Strafford, whose attainder was reversed at the Restoration, was the reason why he was permitted to fill the office. He was living at Sir William Dugdale's visitation of the county of York, in 1665, and recorded his arms and pedigree, but died on the 19th February, 1666. He was buried at Darfield, as will be seen from the following extract from the burial register there:—"Sir

* *South Yorkshire*, vol. ii., p. 138.

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Edward Rodes, of Great Houghton, buried February ye 20th, 1666." In Darfield Church there is also the following memorial of him :—" Here lyeth interred the body of Sir Edward Rodes, Knight, of Great Houghton, who died the 19th day of February, 1666, aged 66 years."

Sir Edward Rodes had by his wife Margaret, daughter of Sir Hammond Whichcote, of Harpswell, in the county of Lincoln, a family of thirteen children, among whom were Godfrey Rodes, of Great Houghton, baptized October 5, 1631; Edward, a barrister, of Gray's Inn, died before Godfrey; William Rodes, heir to Godfrey, baptized July 11, 1639, made a cornet of Horse, 1660, married Mary, daughter of Richard Wilson, merchant, of Leeds (who was great grandfather to the Rev. Christopher Wilson, Bishop of Llandaff, and father of Christopher Wilson, of Elmsall Lodge). She survived him, and married secondly, in 1705, Joshua Rayner.* Hammond Rodes, chaplain to the Dowager Countess of Strafford at Hooton Roberts (who was his aunt), relict of the ill-fated Earl, died at Wombwell Hall, unmarried, on the 5th June, 1688;† Mary married

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* Mr. Joshua Rayner and Madam Rhodes, of Long Houghton Hall, married July, 1705.

"Madam Rayner, of Great Houghton, died at Rhodes Hall, July 22, 1726. A person of great Knowledge, Piety, Worth, and Usefulness. Having been about a month under a Palsie."—*The Northouram Register, Edited by J. Horsfall Turner.*

† "Mr. Hammond Rodes dyed at Wombwell Hall, and buried June 7, 1688."—*Darfield Parish Register.*

"Mr. Hammond Rodes walk't on foot to Esq. Woombels, of Woombel, felt himself not well, would lye down, they thought he had been asleep, found him dead, Aug., 1688, he was a Conformist preacher."—*Obituary and Register of Oliver Heywood.*

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John Wordsworth, gent., of Swaithe Hall; Ann married George Ellis, of Brampton, the benefactor; Milicent married firstly, Charles Hutton, gent., and secondly Robert Banks, Vicar of Hull; Elizabeth died at Wakefield, unmarried, in 1714. Lady Rodes died April 20, 1681, in the 72nd year of her age; and Godfrey, the eldest son, within six days of his mother, unmarried, aged 50. Oliver Heywood has the entry in his obituary under 1681, "Lady Rodes, of Houghton, a great upholder of meetings, buried at Darfield, April 21, at 12 in the night, aged 72;" and it is followed by "Mr. Godfrey Rodes, her son, buried April 27th, aged 50; both at Darfield;" and in Darfield Church is the following memorial:—"Here lieth the body of Lady Rodes, late wife and relict of Sir Edward Rodes, and daughter of Sir Hammond Whichcote, of Harpswell, in the county of Lincoln, Knight; who departed this life the 20th of April, 1681."

It will be observed that the interment of Sir Edward and Lady Rodes took place on the day following their decease, which was customary at the period in which they lived. Lady Rodes, it will also be observed from Oliver Heywood's diary, was buried at *midnight*. Sir Edward's sister, the Dowager Countess of Strafford, was also buried at night. These nocturnal funerals were then common among the gentry, and more wealthy yeomanry. They took place by torchlight, and during the progress of the funeral procession the householders illuminated their windows with lighted candles.

The loss of Lady Rodes, and her son Godfrey, who was then the head of the house at Houghton, was much deplored in the district, and a funeral elegy upon the death of these

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two worthies published the same year contained the following lines:—

"Now Houghton Hall with double mourning's clad,
The noble lady and the squire's dead.

. . . . . .

"She hath her crown and he his coronet.

. . . . . .

"Let Houghton Hall their memory revive,
Keep up religion you that do survive,
Let's meet and pray and preach till we be fit
As blissful peers with them in heaven to sit.
I dare not attempt their virtue's fame,*
Their graces and their gifts but once to name."

In the same volume there is another piece, entitled, "A spiritual conflict, in which the spiritual mind obtains the victory over the soul," dedicated to the virtuous and truly pious Lady Mary Rodes.

The family of Rodes were eminent for their nonconformity,† and their house at Great Houghton long formed an asylum for the ejected and persecuted clergy of that

* *Addl. MSS., Brit. Museum*, 4460.

† "On one occasion, Mr. Birks and his father accompanied Mr. Trembath from Thorpe to Long Houghton. The school-room which was provided proved too strait for the congregation, in consequence of which the preacher took his stand out of doors. But such was the rudeness of the mob, that he was prevented from proceeding. The gentleman who occupied Houghton Hall saw Mr. Birks in the crowd, and invited him, together with the preacher, and as many of the people as were disposed to worship God peaceably, to follow him to the Hall. While his countenance awed the rude in humbler stations, an enclosure in his own grounds afforded perfect security to the more serious part of the audience. The chapel itself now affords shelter to a Methodist preacher and his congregation."—Everett's *Historical Sketches of Wesleyan Methodism in Sheffield*, p. 37.

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period. In the year 1650, Sir Edward Rodes erected near his mansion a building for the performance of religious worship by his family and tenantry. It was the year of his shrievalty, and he is said to have brought Mr. Edward Bowles, of York, one of the most eminent Presbyterian clergy, the intimate friend and adviser of the Fairfaxes, to perform the first religious ordinance in this chapel by the baptism of one of his younger sons. The patronage of this chapel was kept entirely in the hands of the family, and it had no endowment but what they settled upon it, so that it never became united to the Establishment; the descendants of Sir Edward Rodes classing themselves with that denomination of English Dissenters called Presbyterians. The elder branch of the family seated at Barlborough, who were advanced into the order of Baronets, deviated still more widely from the system of faith and discipline established at the Reformation, and became Quakers.

In the time of Sir Edward Rodes, Richard Taylor was for some time the officiating minister at Houghton chapel. He had been prevented by the Act of Uniformity from exercising his ministry in public, and found shelter as chaplain under the family at Great Houghton, and afterwards lived with Mr. Wordsworth, at Swaithe Hall. Dr. Calamy, who used great diligence in collecting for the history of the ministers who did not comply with the terms of the Act of Uniformity, has left biographical notices of several of those ministers who resided at Great Houghton, and in its immediate neighbourhood.* When there was some relaxation in

* Mr. Jonathan Grant, who was of Trinity College, Cambridge, and is described as an active man of fruitful abilities and good learning, fit for any company or discourse, and an acceptable and useful preacher,

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favour of the Nonconformists, in 1672, Jeremiah Milner, another non-conforming minister, of St. John's College, in Cambridge, and who is described as "a man of good parts and competent learning," became the constant minister at Houghton. He died in 1681; when Nathan Denton,* who was living at Bolton-upon-Dearne when the Act passed, became the minister. He lived till the year 1720, and at his death was perhaps the only survivor of the ministers who were uncomplying with the terms offered in 1662. Oliver Heywood preached here occasionally, and we find mention of Houghton in his diary under different dates:—

"On Saturday (Dec. 8, 1665), reached the house of Sir Edward Rodes, of Great Houghton," who had invited him. He spent the Sunday there "with much comfort."

"Nov. 3, 1668.—Having been two Lord's Days at home, I

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and who had been a prisoner in four different castles during the war for his nonconformity, on being ejected from his living retired to Thurnscoe, from whence he much frequented the meetings at the Lady Rodes's, at Houghton. Mr. Mark Trickett, of Magdalen College, another of the silenced ministers, for a time resided at Thurnscoe. "He was," says Calamy, "a man of holy life, and his pulpit performances were much applauded. He used to preach at Houghton, but was afterwards a great while in York Castle for his nonconformity." Grant and Trickett resided at Thurnscoe, with Mr. William Aspinall, B.A., of Magdalen College, Cambridge, who was a connection of the family of Rodes, and who on being ejected from his living, took a farm at Thurnscoe and followed farming. Oliver Heywood has the following entry in his *Register* of Mr. Grant's death: "Mr. Graunt, of Thurnsco, a N. C. Minister of admirable parts, seized on with a palsy, lay half a year, died, was buryd Dec. 1, 1681, a sad breach, aged 63."

* "Mr. Nathan Denton, of Bolton, near Haughton, aged about 87, buried Oct. 13, 1720, being the last (that I've heard of) of the Dissenting Min^rs. ejected in 1662."—*Northowram Register.*

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went to Houghton to my Lady Rodes', where we had a solemn fast on Wednesday; Mr. Clayton, of Rotherham, and I, preached and prayed, and Mr. Kirby closed the work with prayer. The day after, being the 5th of November, my Lady prevailed with us to stay and spend some time in thankfulness. Mr. Grant began, and I preached and prayed, and Mr. Kirby concluded."

"August, 1669.—Preached again at Lady Rodes'; lodged at John Scurr's, at Hague Hall."

"June 30, 1674.—Preached in Lady Rodes' chapel, at Great Houghton, in company with Mr. Richardson. I began concerning 'The Root of the Matter;' went on from Colossians i. 20, on 'Fruitfulness in every Good Work.' God ordered our subjects as if we had purposely cast them into the same mould."

"April 25, 1678, Thursday.—To Wakefield; thence to Houghton, to preach at Lady Rodes', but it not being the day, I went to prayer; rode to Mr. Wadsworth's (Wordsworth's), of Swaithe Hall, and lodged there. God made me of use."

"July 2, 1679.—Rode with Mr. Hancock to Swaithe Hall. Next day to Houghton, where we prayed and preached four or five hours to a full assembly; lodged there that night."

"Oct. 6, 1681.—Rode with Mr. Jolley, and Mrs. and Mr. Jackson, to visit our friends the Wordsworths, at Swaithe, who had gone to a sermon at Esquire Rodes', at Houghton Hall."

Ralph Thoresby, the Leeds antiquary, author of *Loides and Elmete* and other works, occasionally visited Houghton Hall, as will be seen from the following :—

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"1686.—This summer, accompanied by Father Sykes, went to visit relations. The first night we lodged at cousin Rodes's, at Great Houghton; was pleased with the pictures of some eminent statesmen in Queen Elizabeth's time, and family pieces, originals of the Earl of Strafford and Sir Edward Rodes; and was glad of some letters of that nobleman to the Countess [Sir Edward's sister, daughter of Sir Godfrey]; visited Dr. Ellis, another relation, who has built two or three almshouses, at Brampton, but by will bequeathed to ten villages in that neighbourhood £10 each per annum to pious uses. The next day we returned to cousin Rodes's, only calling to visit Dr. Eaton, of Darfield, and Squire Wombwell, of Wombwell."

Elizabeth, one of the daughters of Sir Edward and Lady Rodes, suffered from a singular disorder, which is thus referred to by Oliver Heywood in *Reliquæ Heywoodianæ*:— "In my travels in and out of Nottinghamshire, Oct. 18 and 26, A.D. 1681, I had a sad object, Mrs. Elizab. Rodes (my Lady Rodes' daughter) distracted by a feavor of phrenzy seizing on her. She spoke much, yet in due time the Lord heard prayers for her recovery—a gracious gentlewoman. But her cousen, Lady Margaret (the Countess of Strafford's only daughter, at Hooton) beginning, Oct. 15, the day Mrs. Rodes went ill from thence to be in like manner, yet more raging, and in a fortnight's time died, to the great grief of relations."*

* "Mrs. Elizabeth Rodes, eldest daughter of Sir Edward Rodes, was seized with a distemper that deprived her of her speech, as appears by her letter to her aunt, the Countess of Strafford; and though, by the assistance of Dr. Nathaniel Johnston, of Pontefract, she was recovered for the present, yet it frequently returned, especially upon

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What, however, throws a further halo over Great Houghton is the fact that Elizabeth, one of the sisters of Sir Edward Rodes, was the third wife of Sir Thomas Wentworth, the great Lord Strafford. They were married privately, in October, 1632, a year after the death of Wentworth's second wife. He concealed his alliance for some time, and is said to have scarcely had such an elevated love for her as that which inspired him towards his second and favourite wife. Wentworth had been so successful as Lord President of the

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any sudden accident. But the wonder is, not that a woman should lose her tongue, but during the height of the distemper, when in common conversation, she could not speak one word, yet if a bible was opened to her she could read audibly, but as soon as it was closed she was mute as before. She is yet living at Morley, a truly pious lady, far from any design to impose upon any, but perhaps not wholly void of the *Flatus Hypochondriacus*. In the *Rev. O. Heywood's MS.* of remarkable providences, I find it attested by the Rev. Mr. Chr. Richardson, who was an eye and ear witness, with this additional circumstance, that she could write sermons and repeat them audibly and distinctly, as well as chapters. But what was of secular concerns she replied to by writing the answers she could not pronounce."—*Loides and Elmete*, p. 151, appendix.

A similar case occurred to a Miss Martha Hatfield, the daughter of a highly respectable family, at Laughton in le Morthing, in 1652, which formed the subject of a publication by James Fisher, a minister, of Sheffield, entitled, "The Wise Virgin," which ran through five editions between 1653 and 1664. The case excited great interest, and many, we are told, resorted to Laughton to hear this extraordinary person. Among them were persons of the first quality; two sons of Sir Edward Rodes, the wife of General Lambert, Sir John Bright, besides the numerous family connections of the unfortunate patient. After a short time it was thought that such precious discourses as she delivered ought not to be lost, and the two Mr. Rodes' and others employed themselves in writing down the sentences as they fell from her lips. They were afterwards collected together, and were published in the volume which relates to this singular case.

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North, that the King was induced to offer to him the office of Lord Deputy of Ireland. This office he accepted, and received his commission early in 1632. Armed with extraordinary powers, for which he had carefully stipulated, and retaining still his presidency of the North, he proceeded to Dublin in July, 1632. His wife he sent over to Ireland before him, and publicly acknowledged her on his arrival; and she remained with him during his seven years' government of Ireland. He there entered upon his duties with great state, ordered the ceremonial of the English court to be observed at the castle, and surrounded himself with a guard, which was at the time a great novelty in Dublin.* Elizabeth Rodes has been described by one author as a pretty but rather commonplace woman; but Lord Strafford loved her dearly, there is no doubt, and she long deeply revered his memory. When trouble fell upon this distinguished man, he lingered in the country with his wife and family till late in the year 1640. On the 5th of Nov. he was still at Wentworth, but he was then on the eve of his departure to attend to his great concerns in

* "I saw the Earl of Strafford in Dublin (June 1639) when he was then Lord Deputy, in far greater state (in some respects) than the King of England. The Earl of Ormond (now Marquis) was pointed out to me as riding in the Deputy's own troop. I saw one princely stable of the Deputy's, wherein I judged the worst of sixty horses for the great saddle to be worth £30. His lordship's paternal estate was £4,000 to £5,000 per annum, which he lived to double, but dying in about £80,000 debt, his son had sold a moiety of the said estate to pay the aforesaid debt. £20,000 of this debt was incurred by being surety for the King, or by taking up the like sum for his Majesty, at the beginning of the war in Yorkshire." *A Cavalier's Note Book.* Being notes, anecdotes, etc., of William Blundell, of Crosby, Lancashire, Captain of Dragoons, 1642, p. 104.

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London. With what feelings he took his last farewell of these peaceful and happy scenes of his less ambitious ancestry we may collect from an expression in one of his letters to his ever faithful servant, Sir George Radcliffe, and about the end of May following he returned, not to the house, but the sepulchre of his ancestors. His wife, we are told,* remained in Ireland during all his period of extreme suffering; and there is no evidence of any effort made by her to save him from the executioner.

A few letters from the Earl to his lady are in the possession of Lord Houghton, and preserved at Fryston Hall, with many interesting relics of the Rodes family, of which his lordship is the representative. The letters, which are chiefly of a private nature, have been printed by his lordship. One of them is as follows:—

"Sweete Hartte,—I shall doe more for you this morning then I could have dun since I was your husbande, write you a letter from Woodhouse; whither now I am cum in healthe I humbly praise God, and to the abode of my fathers. My businesse here is much and intricate, yet that does not affright me. I have begun and a little paines and patience will sett all right I trust. . . . . Heare is the hudgest abundance of fruite I ever saw, and venison in abundance; wee keepe excellent cheare, and have passing good wine, and that finds Southworth, faithe, he banges it soundly. God Allmighty take vs all into his blessed protection, and send me and this company well at Dublin againe.

"Your very loving husbande,

"Wentworth."

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* *Fairfax Correspondence*, Johnson, vol, i., p. 50.

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Lord Houghton thus brings this interesting little collection of Wentworth papers to a conclusion :—

"There is a letter extant, dated from the Tower, February 4th, 1640-1, in which the Earl informs his wife that 'the charge is now cum inn, and I am now able I prayse God to tell you, that I conceave there is nothing capitall; and for the rest I now at the worste, his Ma'ty will pardon all, without hurting my fortune, and then we shall be happy by God's grace.' And in another, dated April 19th, he writes that his trial as to fact is near at an end, and there remained only matter of law to be spoken to; that the King continued very gracious to him, and his friends increased rather than lessened; he concludes by trusting all will end well, and bidding her be of good cheer. On the 12th of May he was no more; but the day before his execution he solemnly enjoined his son, 'be sure you give all respect to my wife, that hath ever bore a great love unto you, and therefore will be well becoming you.'" *

In the *Rawden Papers* are three letters from this daughter of the house of Rodes. The first is addressed to her brother, Sir Edward Rodes, at his house at Great Houghton, and the other two to the Lord Bishop of Derry. Two of them have neither place nor date, and the third has only the month and year.† The one to her brother is as follows :—

"Good Brother,

"I am sure you are not ignorant how much I and my

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* *Chapters in Yorkshire History.* J. J. Cartwright, M.A., pp. 255-6.

† *The Rawden Papers, consisting of Letters on various subjects to and from Archbishop John Bramhall*, pp. 111, etc.

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brother Godfrey was obliged to the Bishop of Derry, therefore I make my suit to you with all earnestness imaginable, that you will show what favour lies in your power to his daughter, Mrs. Isabella Bramhall [married to Sir James Graham, youngest son of William, Earl of Menteith, of Scotland] in her business that she and her friend has in Scotland. It would be too long for a letter to tell you what brotherly care the Bishop took of my brother, both for his encouragement and preferment; therefore if we could requite it to any of his, it would be a very great satisfaction to me, in which I am confident you will join with

"Your most entirely

"Loving sister,

"The 18th July." "E. Strafforde.

"To the Lord Bishop of Derry.*

"My Lord,—I was very angry at myself as soon as you was gone from hence that I had forgot to mention Mrs. Tinsley's condition to you, and beg some advice for her. I must leave it to her to tell you her own story, but truly I have great experience of her piety and all other virtues suitable to her sex and sufferings. If there be any way for the relief of such as are in her case, I beseech you put her into it, and you

* John Bramhall, D.D., Archbishop of Armagh, in his Life, is said to have been related to the family of Keresforth, of Keresforth, near Barnsley. He went to Ireland as chaplain to Lord Strafford, and was much employed there in reforming ecclesiastical abuses. He was raised to the Bishopric of Derry. During the Civil War he resided chiefly abroad; and at the Treaty of Uxbridge in 1644, the English Parliament made it a preliminary article, that he, along with Archbishop Laud, and others, should be excepted from the general pardon. At the Restoration he was appointed Archbishop of Armagh, Primate, and Metropolitan of Ireland, and was chosen Speaker of the House of Lords.

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will have the blessings and prayers of the widow and the fatherless and as many thanks as is possible to be rendered to you by my Lord

"Your most humble servant,

"E. Strafforde."

From the same to the same.

"My Lord,—The person that brings you this scribble of mine is Mr. Robert Bunynd; he hath been known to me this long time, having lived diverse years at Woodhouse [Wentworth Woodhouse] as chaplain. There to us all demeaning himself very discreetly, soberly, and piously, and very conformable to the antient discipline and doctrine of the Church of England; and really I am particularly obliged to him for the huge care and kindness he showed to me and my child. Since the family at Woodhouse was dissolved he has lived as chaplain to my late Lord of Sussex and tutor to this Lord where I know his deportment hath been very good. Now my lord I hear that your commendation hath great influence upon my Lord Chancellor; my humble suit is, that you will speak a good word in the behalf of Mr. Bunynd who hath delivered a petition to him for a small living in his gift, and therein you will very much add to the great obligation of your

"Most humble servant

"August the first,—60." "E. Strafforde."

After the death of her lord the Countess of Strafford retired to a jointure house of the noble family of Wentworth, situate at Hooton Roberts,* and there she lived in a state of

"* It was at this time that I had commenced a suit against the Countess Dowager of Strafford (who lived then at Hooton Roberts), for planting a warren and opening a quarry upon the common (which I opposed as a freeholder of Hooton Roberts and Lord of Denaby). But

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retirement for a period of more than 40 years, in the company of her only daughter, the Lady Margaret Wentworth.* There Lady Strafford died on the 9th April, 1688, and was buried by torchlight at midnight on the 11th. In her will she expressly ordered that no stone monument, nor escutcheon, should be placed to her memory. Her daughter, the Lady Margaret, died unmarried in 1681. The instructions given in the Countess's will were carried out to the letter, for on the restoration of the church in 1877, not even a slab was found to mark the place of her interment. Mr. Wainwright, author of *Strafforth and Tickhill*, in a note in his *MSS.*, says that Mr. Eyre, the rector of Hooton, sent him a transcript from the Journal of the Countess's chaplain (Mr. Hammond Rodes, her nephew) which is among the papers he has preserved.

William Rodes, after the death of his brother Godfrey, became heir and successor to the estates at Houghton. He had amongst other issue, Godfrey,† who died in 1710, and Richard Rodes (in whom the families of Rodes and Riche, of Bullhouse, became united), who married Martha, daughter of Elkanah Riche, of Bullhouse, in the parish of Penistone, and only sister of the whole blood of Aymer

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it went no further, my Lord of Strafford and her ladyship, both consenting that the warren should be destroyed and the quarry filled up."—*Memoirs of Sir John Reresby*, p. 85.

* Hunter, in his *Itinerary*, in 1807, on visiting Wentworth House, mentions the family paintings, and says, there is "one of the daughter of the first Earl, by Rodes, his last wife. There is something mysterious in her history—she is supposed to have had in early life a disappointment in love."

† "Mr. Godfrey Rodes, of Long Houghton Hall, bur. Mar. 1, 1709-10, about 22 years of age. Heir to a great estate."—*Northowram Register.*

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Riche, of the same place. The said Richard died Feb. 14, 1720-1, and was buried at Darfield on the 17th of the same month.*

William,† his son, died unmarried in 1740, and the only

*"Richard Roades, Esq., of Long Houghton, bur. Feb. 17, 1720-1." —*Darfield Parish Register.*

"Mr. Richard Rodes, of Great Houghton, died Feb. 14, 1720-1." —*Northowram Register.*

† "William Rodes of Great Houghton, third son, and at length heir of Sir Edward, who by Frances, his wife, dau. of Richard Wilson of Leeds, merchant (which Richard was great grandfather to Christopher Wilson, Bishop of Bristol), had issue Richard Rodes, of Great Houghton. The said Richd. Rodes, married Martha, dau. of Elkanah Riche. He died the 4th Feb., 1720-1, and had issue, by the said Martha (who survived him, and afterwards married Samuel Crompton, of Derby, gent.), two daughters, co-heiresses, of whom Mary, the eldest, died unmarried March 14, 1789, aged 76, and was bur. at Darfield; and Martha, the younger (who died June 29, 1802, aged 84, and was bur. at Darfield), was married to Hans Busk, of Leeds, merchant, and by him (who died in Feb. 1792, aged 74, and was bur. in St. John's Church, Leeds) had three daughters; viz., Mary Anne, born Feb. 10, 1755, married to James Milnes, Esq., of Thornes-house; Martha, who died unmarried; and Rachel, born Jan. 31, 1760, married to Richard Slater Milnes."— *Playfair's Baronetage Appendix.*

"In the middle aisle, near this place, are interred the remains of William Rodes, Esquire, of Great Houghton, who departed this life March 29, 1740, in the 25th year of his age: only son of Richard Rodes, Esquire, by Mary his wife, the daughter of Elkanah Rich, Esquire, of Bullhouse, in this County, who are both interred in the same place."—*Memorial in Darfield Church.*

"William Rodes, of Houghton, Esq., died at London, bur. at Darfield, near Houghton, beginning of April, 1740."—*Northowram Register.*

"Edward, son of Mr. Will. Rhodes, Esq., of Great Houghton, bur. May 24, 1690.

William Rhodes, Esq., of Great Houghton, was bur. Dec. 17, 1694.

Godfrey Rhodes, of Great Houghton, Esq., bur. March 2, 1709.

William Rhodes, of Great Houghton, Esq., bur. April 9, 1740."— *Darfield Parish Register.*

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surviving issue of Richard Rodes were two daughters, his co-heirs, of whom, Mary, the elder, died unmarried March 14, 1789, and was buried at Darfield.*

Martha, the younger daughter, married Hans Busk, Esq., of Leeds (son of Jacob Hans Busk, of Gottenburg in Sweden, who married Rachel, a near relation of Mr. Wordsworth, of Swaithe Hall, and died Oct. 21, 1755), who was a member of the firm of Busk, Bischenout, and Bischoff, woollen merchants, Leeds, and who after commencing business soon became the head of the trade. Wadsworth [Wordsworth] Busk of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law, knighted, and living in 1812, was the youngest brother of Hans Busk; and he had a son, Hans Busk, Esq., of London, who died as recently as 1862, in the 90th year of his age.† Hans Busk

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*"Mrs. Mary Rhodes of Great Houghton bur. March 20th, 1789." —*Darfield Parish Register.*

A memorial in Darfield Church has this inscription: "Near this place are interred the remains of Mary Rodes, of Great Houghton, who departed this life March 14th, 1789, in the 76th year of her age; sister and co-heir of William Rodes, Esquire. Also near this place are interred the remains of Martha Busk, who departed this life May 17th, 1777, in the 21st year of her age; second daughter of Hans Busk, Esq., by Martha his wife, sister of William and Mary Rodes."

† "On the 8th inst. (Feb., 1862), at his residence, Great Cumberland Street, Hyde Park, Hans Busk, Esq., J.P. for the county of Radnor, the youngest son of Sir Wadsworth Busk, aged 90."—*Gentleman's Magazine*, 1862. The Busk family is now represented by Edward Thomas Busk, of Ford's Grove, Enfield.—*See Burke's Landed Gentry, article Busk.* "One of the Busk family intermarried with the Wadsworth family, of Swaithe Hall. Sir Wadsworth Busk says his mother was the daughter of a Mr. Wadsworth, of Leeds, a near relation to the family at Swaithe, and descended maternally from Joshua Kirkby, the ejected minister at Wakefield. Sir Wadsworth and his son went to see the grave of this worthy confessor, who, as you must recollect, was

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and Martha Rodes had issue three children; Mary Ann, married to James Milnes, of Thornes House, near Wakefield, Esquire, High Sheriff of Yorkshire in the year 1800, and some time member for Bletchingley; Martha, who died unmarried; and Rachel, married to Richard Slater Milnes, of Wakefield and Fryston, M.P. for York.*

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excommunicated, and buried in a garden at Wakefield. I shall make diligent inquiry about this singular fact, and endeavour to find out the identical spot where the grave is to be seen."—*Letter from R. Moult to Rev. J. Hunter (no date).—Add. MSS.* Vol. 24,871, p. 418.

* "Robert Milnes, an eminent merchant at Wakefield (who died about 1734), married twice, his second wife being Sarah, daughter of William Rawden, and widow of William Sykes, of Leeds, merchant. She had by Wm. Sykes, her first husband, two sons; 1st, Samuel, a merchant at Hull, who married Mary, daughter of John Wordsworth, Esq., of Swaithe Hall, near Barnsley, which estate, through an intermarriage between the families of Wordsworth and Rodes, eventually came to Mary, the wife of James Milnes, and Rachel, the wife of Richard Slater Milnes, mentioned in the text as the representatives of the family of Rodes, of Great Houghton. . . . . James Milnes, of Thornes House, in the parish of Wakefield, Esq., third and only surviving son and heir of James Milnes, of Wakefield, merchant, was born 11th Oct., 1755, at Wakefield. He married, 24 February, 1778, at Penistone, Mary Anne, eldest daughter and co-heir of Hans Busk, Esq., of Leeds and Bull-house, and granddaughter and co-heiress of Richard Rodes, Esq., and of Martha his wife, the sister of Aymer Riche, Esq. The said James Milnes was Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1800, and on the 17th of August, 1802, he and his lady had the King's royal license, by Sign Manual, to take and use the surname of Riche, in compliance with the will of Aymer Riche. The same year he was elected to represent the borough of Bletchingley in Parliament; and his lady dying without issue, the 10th Nov. 1802, he had another royal license, the 13th of January, 1803, to re-assume the name and arms of Milnes. He was in the Commission of the Peace and Deputy-Lieutenant for the West Riding of Yorkshire. . . . . Richard Slater Milnes, only surviving son and heir of Robert Milnes, had a considerable fortune from

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Mr. Milnes had at one time intended to have made Houghton Hall his residence. It had been occupied by the Rodes family from the time of Sir Godfrey till the death of Mrs. Mary Rodes, or, according to the usual phraseology of the time and the country, of "Madam Rodes," in 1789. Not only the walls, but much of the original furniture remained. Some of the rooms were hung with tapestry; and in others were portraits of Queen Elizabeth, and many of the distinguished persons of her court. Mr. Richard Slater Milnes

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his father; and was seated at Great Houghton, in right of his wife, and at Fryston, near Ferrybridge, by purchase. In the year 1784 he was elected to represent the city of York in Parliament, and continued its representative until the General Election in 1802. He was also in the Commission of the Peace, and Deputy-Lieutenant for the West Riding, and married, 30th May, 1801, at Darfield, Rachel, youngest daughter and co-heir, and afterwards only surviving daughter and sole heiress, of Hans Busk, Esq., above named, and grand-daughter and co-heiress of Richard Rodes, Esq., and of Martha, his wife, the sister of Aymer Riche. The said Richard Slater Milnes, and Rachel, his wife, obtained his Majesty's royal license, by Sign Manual, dated 13th January, 1803, to take the surname of Riche; and the said Richard Slater Milnes died 2nd June, 1804, at Egremont House, London, the town residence of his cousin and brother-in-law, Mr. James Milnes. He left issue two sons and seven daughters, the sons being, Robert Pemberton Milnes, of Fryston Hall, Esq., eldest son and heir; and Richard Rodes Milnes, on whom the estates of the Rodes family were settled."—*Playfair's Baronetage, Milnes, Appendix*, p. xlv.

Mary, daughter of John Milnes, married Benjamin Gaskell, of Clifton Hall, Manchester. Her brother James, who married Rachel Busk, having no issue, and all the issue of her grandfather, John Milnes, being exhausted, the grandchildren of Mary Gaskell inherited the estates (including Swaithe Hall), which are now enjoyed by her representative, Charles Milnes Gaskell, Esq., of Thornes House.

"Richard Slater Milnes, of the par. of Wakefield, Esquier, and Rachel Busk, of this parish, spinster, married 30th August, 1781."—*Darfield Parish Register.*

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found the hall in a state of some decay, and he found also that the houses of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, however striking as picturesque objects, and however curious as illustrative of the manners of an age long passed away, are little adapted to afford those conveniences and comforts which, in the improved state of society, are become requisite. He expended a thousand pounds in alterations and repairs, but after a residence of ten weeks he abandoned it to tenants. The furniture and tapestry were removed. Many of the windows were blocked up. Dilapidations followed, and what remains of the hall has, as we have said, been licensed as a public-house.*

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* "Lord Fitzwilliam is in treaty for Houghton. The Milnes' family made a great show forty years since, at Wakefield; and there were the Busks and Madame Rodes, who never moved without four horses, and now where are they? If it was not that I hear of the benevolence and urbanity of the Dowager Lady Galway, the Milnes' family would be forgotten. Mr. R. Milnes took the old furniture from Houghton to Frystone, burnt the most of it, and the pictures may be somewhere in the garrets, perhaps."—*Extract of a letter from Mr. Woodcock, Hemsworth, to Rev. J. Hunter*, dated September 13th, 1823. Add. MSS., British Museum, Vol. 2,487, pp. 313.

"The Rodes's, of Great Houghton, have been a family of considerable distinction in that village for centuries. The last of that family I personally knew 40 years ago. The old mansion, with its chapel, still exists. I well remember how my imagination was affected when a school boy, on crossing the large court yard and passing along the sombre entrance to the servants' hall, where everything, from the furniture to the servants, bore the impress of antiquity. The mansion is worth visiting as a specimen of the architecture of the time of James I."—*Extract from letter dated Dec. 5, 1822, from Edward Oxley to Mr. Wainwright*, author of *Strafforth and Tickhill*.

Hunter, in his *Itinerary*, in July, 1807, says:—"At Long Houghton, about 1½ miles from Thurnscoe, we saw the chapel built by the Rodes's, and the Old Hall, now completely deprived of its furniture, and looking

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Mr. Milnes had, however, purchased, some time before, Fryston Hall, which he enlarged, and took up his residence there in 1790. His son was "Orator" or "Single speech" Milnes, as he was variously called in his time, and who, after his retirement from public life, lived a good deal on the continent, where the youth of the present Lord Houghton, the wearer of the title which his father refused, was chiefly spent. Mr. Milnes returned to Fryston in 1835, where he remained till his death. He had married Henrietta Maria Monckton, the third daughter of Lord Galway, which united the houses of Monckton and Milnes. Richard Monckton Milnes, his only son, is too well known as the present Lord Houghton to need any mention. He was born in 1809, and graduated M.A. at Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1831, was returned for Pontefract in 1857, and represented that borough for many years.

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very forlorn. It can never again be inhabited. The rooms are not extraordinarily good. In the middle of the court yard there grows a fine tree. The chapel is close by the house. Mr. Hodgson, the minister of Doncaster, goes over to preach there once a month, and has a good congregation. Mrs. Milnes, of Fryston, is the only supporter of the minister. This estate is said to be settled on the second son."

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Sir Thomas Hallifax, Knight, Lord Mayor of London.

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No. VII.

Sir Thomas Hallifax, Lord Mayor of London, and the Hallifax Family.

THERE are many persons in the district who are not aware that one of the Lord Mayors of London—and not one of the least notable of them—was a native of Barnsley, and spent his early years in that town. The name of this distinguished individual was Thomas Hallifax, son of John Hallifax, a person of a mechanical turn of mind and of some substance and respectability, who carried on the business of a clock-maker, with great credit to himself and satisfaction to the community in which he resided. The family to which he belonged were originally of the town of Halifax, and descended from the ancient family of Waterhouse, of that place. These Waterhouses were connected with, and held the tithes of Barnsley. In 1609 Isaac Waterhouse, of Woodhouse, in the parish of Halifax, bequeathed to two of his sons his lease of the Priory, Manor of Barnsley. Edmund Rogers, who left the Thorp Audlin benefaction to Barnsley, had a

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lease of the tithes under the family of Waterhouse, which was unexpired at the time of his death, in 1646. In 1660, one moiety of the tithe was in the possession of John Waterhouse, Vicar of Darton, who in that year sold it to James Wood, of Barnsley, gentleman. The other moiety was possessed, in 1672, by Isaac Waterhouse, a mercer, in Barnsley, and it continued in the family till 1683. Robert, the second son of Robert Waterhouse, of Halifax, was educated at University College, Oxford, and inducted into the Vicarage of Springthorpe, in Lincolnshire, in 1621, where his benefice was sequestered for his adherence to the royal cause, but afterwards restored. His only son, Thomas, born in 1626, dropped the name of Waterhouse, and used that of Hallifax only. This Thomas had three sons—William, born 1655;* Thomas, 1658; and Robert, 1662 (the last named being grandfather to Samuel Hallifax, Bishop of St. Asaph and Gloucester, and Dr. Robert Hallifax, physician to the Prince of Wales).† The eldest

* "William Hallifax, a minister of God's Word, was born at Springthorpe, in Lincolnshire, admitted servitor of Brasenose Coll.; became scholar of C. C. in April, 1675; Bac. of Arts, 22nd Feb., 1678; Fellow of C. C. C. in Dec., 1682; Bach. of Div., 24th Nov., 1687. He translated from French into English *The Elements of Euclid explain'd in a new but most easy Method.* Oxon., 1685, Oct. Written by F. Claud Francis de Chales, of the Society of Jesus."—*Wood's Ath.* (*Bliss*), vol. iv., p. 621.

† "Bishop Hallifax was the eldest son of Mr. Samuel Hallifax, apothecary, at Chesterfield, by Hannah, youngest daughter of Richard Jebb, maltster, by whom he was first cousin to Sir Richard and Dr. John Jebb. He continued at Jesus College till after he had taken his Master's degree; and then removed to Trinity Hall, and there obtained LL.D., 1764; was appointed Regius Professor of Civil Law, in 1770; became D.D. (by Royal Mandate) in 1775; and was elected F.S.A.

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son, who was created D.D. in 1695, travelled in Syria, Palestine, and Egypt, and was chaplain to William III. The second son, Thomas, succeeded to the living of Springthorpe, which he held 25 years, dying in 1711. He left three sons—Thomas, born 1688; John, 1694; and William, 1696.

Bishop Hallifax was born at Chesterfield. He was partly educated at the Grammar School there. There is a tablet in Chesterfield Church, on which is the following inscription :—"To parents, of the greatest worth, Robert and Hannah Hallifax, who having fulfilled all human duties faithfully and properly, migrated (departed) from this life. He, A.D., 1759, aged 63. She, A.D., 1787, aged 78. This monument, their dearest son, Robert Hallifax, physician to the Prince of Wales, desired to erect in testimony of his love and affection, in 1796."

The second son, John Hallifax, came and settled in Barnsley in the early part of the eighteenth century; and there we find him carrying on the business of a clock-maker for many years. He married Anna Archdale, of Pilley, a member of a highly respectable family of that place, daughter of George Archdale, related to a branch of the family of Burdett, seated at Tankersley. The following is the record of the marriage :—

"1717, Johannes Hallifax de Barnesley in par. de Silkston, faber Horolog., and Anna Archdale de Pilley, Spinster.

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in 1787. Bishop Hallifax was a prelate of extensive learning and knowledge, and of great ability. His brother Robert, F.A.S., 1776, and F.R.S., 1785, was many years an apothecary in St. James's-street, London, and afterwards physician to the Prince of Wales."—*Literary Anecdotes*, vol. iv., p. 660.

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Matrimonio juncti Licentiâ prius in hac parte concessa. Octobris 31.

"Rev. Viro Joh. Clarkson, Sur."*

"Anna filia Georgii Archdale bap. 10 Obris., 1686."

Our information respecting John Hallifax's connection with Barnsley is very meagre. The parish register supplies us with the following baptisms and burials :—

"1718, Aug. 24.—William, son of Mr. John Hallifax, bapt.

"1721-2.—Thomas, son of John Hallifax, bap. [Afterwards Sir Thomas Hallifax, Knight, and Lord Mayor of London].

"1724, Mar. 27.—Elizabeth, dau. of John Hallifax, bap.

"1725, Nov. 19.—George, son of John Hallifax, bap

"1728, May 11.—Joseph, son of John Hallifax, bap.

"1731, Dec. 21.—Ben, son of John Hallifax, bap.

"1750, Sept. 27.—Mr. John Hallifax, bur.

"1757, June 6.—George, son of Jo : Hallifax, bap.

"1758, Oct. 6.—Thos., son of Jo : Hallifax, bap.

"1761, May 30.—Eliza., dau. of Joseph Hallifax, bap.

"1757, Oct. 8.—George, son of Jo : Hallifax, bur.

"1762, Oct. 11.—Mr. Joseph Hallifax, Post-master, bur."

John Hallifax was contemporary at Barnsley with John Beckett, Francis Wood, William Wilson, and others of our

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* Luke Burdett, of Tankersley, gentleman, made his will 6th March, 1679. He mentions his cousin, Elizabeth, daughter of George Archdale, of Pilley, etc. Francis Burdett, of Flanshaw (Tankersley), will made 8th Nov., 1697, mentions his sister, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Archdale. John, George, Elizabeth, Mary, and Hannah, the children of her aunt Archdale, leaves something to the poor of Barnsley, Penistone, etc.

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local notables, and left behind him several sons, who made their mark in the world.

John Hallifax died on the 25th September, 1750, and the inscription on his tombstone, which is still to be seen in St. Mary's Church-yard, pays a high compliment to his character :—

"In memory of Mr. John Hallifax, of this town, whose abilities and virtue few in these times have attained. His art and industry were such as his ingenious inventions will be a lasting monument of his merit—such as recommended him to the favour and esteem of all good men that knew him. He departed this life September 25th, 1750."

It will be seen that his genius was mechanical, and that he acquired celebrity for the construction of delicate pieces of mechanism, but what these were, and whether they only referred to his clocks or not, we cannot say ; but certainly for these he acquired much fame, for the clocks of John Hallifax always bore a high reputation, not only in the town of Barnsley, but throughout the whole of the district, and several are still in existence, which are worthy specimens of his genius. One of these, in the steward's room at Wentworth House, which bears the name "John Hallifax, Barnsley," still records the correct time, and is unique in its workmanship, although probably nearly 150 years old ; whilst there is also a handsome timepiece, another fine specimen of his craft, in good condition, in the possession of the representatives of an old Barnsley family. The late Mr. Joseph Beckett, who used to speak from his own knowledge of the Hallifax family, and knew Sir Thomas and his brothers, had one of the clocks of "John Hallifax" fitted up in a handsome case. Another specimen was

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owned by the late Mr. Richard Thorp, and others may still be met with in the district.

As John Hallifax lived at a time when we had no local newspapers and no local chronicler, we can say nothing of his ingenious inventions, his abilities and virtues, which are mentioned in his monumental inscription; but that he was a man of high moral character, and of great ability and ingenuity there can be no doubt, and if Barnsley had been at that day a corporate town, he would probably have been one of its chief magistrates, but as there was no such dignity within his reach, he was obliged to remain contented with his lot. In his day he had few compeers, and was a man of whom, taking him for all in all, Barnsley has reason to be proud, and of his family after him.

It will be seen from the above extracts that he had a pretty numerous progeny. His son Thomas we may justly consider to have been one of the most eminent men this town has produced; another son was John Hallifax, of Kenilworth, in Warwickshire, Esquire; Benjamin, D.D., of Clapton, in Middlesex; * George, of Doncaster, alderman and Justice of the Peace, filled the office of Mayor there in 1775 and 1792, dying in 1811 at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Joseph carried on his father's business, and filled the office of postmaster at Barnsley, and died and was buried there on the 11th Oct., 1762, leaving several children.

* "Benjamin Hallifax entered at Manchester School 19th May, 1747; of Brasenose College, Oxford, B.A., Oct. 25th, 1752; Fellow of Lincoln College, 28th Feb., 1753; M.A. May 28th, 1755; B.D. March 21st, 1764; D.D. Feb. 20th, 1768. Resident in Lincoln College, 29 years. Rector of Cublington, Bucks."—*Manchester School Register*, Chetham Soc., pub. 1866, p. 30.

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Thomas Hallifax, the third son, received his education in Barnsley, and at the usual age was apprenticed to a grocer in that town, but not liking the business, or having more ambitious views, he left his situation before his indentures of apprenticeship expired, and went to London, where, by unremitting industry, he soon laid the foundation of his future fortune, and paved the way to those high dignities which he afterwards obtained. We have not been able to recover the name of the grocer to whom he was apprenticed, nor to obtain any incidents connected with his early years; and much of what little is given of his career has only been recovered after much research.

In what capacity Thomas Hallifax was engaged after he first settled in the metropolis we are not aware, but it was probably as a clerk in a banking establishment, in which he would appear to have had a rapid rise, for in 1753, when little more than 30 years of age, we find him presented with the Freedom of the City of London,. and becoming a partner, or in fact, we should say, one of the originators of the eminent banking firm of Glyn and Hallifax, afterwards Glyn, Mills, Hallifax, and Co., a firm which has continued to the present time, and which has long had the reputation of having a larger business than any other private banking house in the city of London.

It was formerly the custom in banking houses for clerks to become partners in order of seniority, and it is very probable that it was through this custom, coupled with the fact of his being a man of more than ordinary intelligence and ability, that Thomas Hallifax owes his rapid promotion. The only bank in London in which this custom is now continued is that of Child and Co., and there the clerks all become

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partners in order of seniority; which custom, probably, says Mr. Hilton Price, in his Handbook of *London Bankers*. p. 28, originated in the apprentice, after serving his full articles, being taken into the firm in partnership with his master. When bankers discontinued having apprentices, their clerks who had risen from being juniors became head clerks and eventually partners. This practice, as far as Messrs. Child and Co. are concerned, has been continued ever since the latter end of the 17th century. In the early part of the 18th century, and even later, it was a common occurrence for London bankers to take their clerks into the firm; the custom has now, however, fallen into disuse. Joseph Vere, the senior partner, and one of the founders of the firm of Vere, Glyn, and Hallifax, was thirty years before only a clerk in the banking house of Thomas Martin and Co.

The only surviving granddaughter of Sir Thomas Hallifax, who is now residing at Boxted Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, has many interesting papers in her possession relating to Sir Thomas. Among these is the parchment deed conferring the freedom of the city of London on Thomas Hallifax, who is described as a goldsmith, and son of John Hallifax, of Barnsley. It is dated 1753, and is signed by Sir Crisp Gascoyne, Lord Mayor, and Sir Thomas Harrison, Knt., Chamberlain.

She has also several deeds of partnership, the first of which is dated January 5, 1753, between Joseph Vere, Sir Richard Glyn, and Thomas Hallifax (the latter of whom is described as a goldsmith and a banker), who are about to carry on "the art, trade, and business of bankers" in Lombard-street. This would probably be Thomas Hallifax's first partnership.

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Mr. Hilton Price, speaking of this firm, says it "appears to have commenced in Lombard-street (so far as can be told by the *London Directory*) between the year 1740 and 1754, the precise date being difficult to ascertain in consequence of no list of bankers being forthcoming for the interval between those two dates. The style of the firm in 1754 was Vere, Glyn, and Hallifax."

"There is little doubt but that the firms of Vere, Glyn, and Co, and Vere, Asgill, and Co., had a common origin, and were started by Joseph Vere, and that between 1752 and 1754 a dissolution took place in the partnership, as we find upon a cash note of Messrs. Child and Co., September, 1752, the following endorsement: 'J. Meredith,' witness T. Huck, for Messrs. Vere, Asgill, and Co.; and upon a similar note of Child and Backwell's, in Feb., 1754, 'Robert Carr,' witness, T. Huck, for Messrs. Vere, Glyn, and Co. The latter firm moved to Birchin-lane, whereas Asgill and Co. remained in Lombard-street. In 1754, Henry Mitton witnessed signatures for the firm, and he was subsequently admitted into the partnership.

"In 1770, their house in Birchin-lane was numbered 18; and the firm consisted of Sir Richard Glyn, Knight and Baronet, M.P. for the City of London, Alderman of Dowgate Ward, and a Colonel of the City Militia; and Thomas Hallifax, who was Alderman of Aldersgate Ward. About 1773, Sir Richard Glyn retired, and Sir Thomas Hallifax assumed three partners, the firm in that year consisting of Thomas Hallifax, Mills, R. C. Glynn, and Mitton. The next change to be noted was in 1777, when Mr. Charles Mills came into the firm as fourth partner. In 1783 or 1784, Mr. Mills senior's name disappeared from

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the firm, which became Sir Thomas Hallifax, Richard Carr Glyn, Charles Mills, and Henry Mitton. In 1789 the name of Sir Thomas Hallifax is not seen, and the business was conducted at 12, Birchin-lane, by R. C. Glyn, Mills, and Mitton. About 1790, according to the *Directory*, Richard Carr Glyn was knighted. In 1797, the firm was Glyn, Mills, Hallifax, and Co., and so it continued until 1811, when the style of the firm became Glyn, Mills, Hallifax, Glyn and Co.; so continuing until 1823, when another Mr. Mills came into it.

"In 1826 they moved to their present premises, No. 67, Lombard-street, which house belongs to the Goldsmiths' Company, having been left to them by Sir Martin Bowes, the eminent goldsmith, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

"The style of the firm was again altered, in 1830, to R. C. Glyn, Hallifax, Mills, and Co., consisting of Thomas Hallifax, Charles Mills, Sir Richard P. Glyn, Bart., George Carr Glyn, Thomas Hallifax, jun., and Edward Wheeler Mills. In 1851 it became Glyn, Mills, and Co., which it continued to be until 1864, when they amalgamated with the old firm of Curries and Co., of Cornhill, since which time the style of the firm has been Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co.

"In 1869, Sir George Carr Glyn was created a Peer, under the title of Baron Wolverton. The present Lord Wolverton succeeded to the title in 1873.

"The firm now consists of the following partners:—

Raikes Currie.

Rt. Hon. George Grenfell Glyn, Lord Wolverton.

Sir Charles Henry Mills, Bart., M.P.

Bertram Wodehouse Currie.

The Hon. Pascoe Charles Glyn."

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In 1762, Thomas Hallifax was married at Ewell, to Penelope, daughter of Richard Thomson, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, whose loss he had unfortunately to mourn the same year. He afterwards married for his second wife, Margaret, daughter and co-heir of John Savile, Esq., of Clayhill, in the parish of Enfield, in Middlesex. In 1766, Thomas Hallifax was elected an Alderman of Aldersgate Ward. He must have been already a man of note, for at that time the Corporation of London was a great political power, which ministers had to take into account, and sovereigns had to propitiate. Wealthy merchants and bankers concerned themselves in municipal elections, and gladly filled municipal offices. Their doings were watched with great interest, and the Lord Mayor of London was then nearly as important a personage as the Prime Minister of Great Britain. Hallifax served the office of Sheriff in 1768-9; rose in wealth, power, and influence to a degree which culminated in his being elected Lord Mayor, in 1776, which bespeaks his being a man of the first rank in public life. We have recovered from the *London Chronicle*, 1776, vol. xl., No. 3,092, p. 14, the following account of the election :—* "On Saturday a common hall was held at Guildhall for the election of a Sheriff in the room of Alderman Wooldridge, who is excused from serving the office; and for the choice

* "Sawbridge, the Lord Mayor, now quitted at the end of his year, having done nothing in his mayoralty remarkable, but not permitting the press-gangs at this time to enter the city. Sir Thomas Hallifax succeeded him, and invited the ministers to his feast, to which they had not been asked for *seven* years. Thus Wilkes, by his imprudence, and by the folly of the opposition, lost the city."—*Last Journals of Horace Walpole*, Dr. Doran, vol. 1, p. 163.

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of a Lord Mayor for the year ensuing, at which the following Aldermen were present, besides the Lord Mayor—viz., Alsop, Crosby, Bull, Hallifax, Esdaile, Plumbe, Kennett, Kirkman, Plomer, Thomas, Peckham, Hayley, Newnham, Wooldridge, Lee, Smith, and Clarke, when Alderman Thomas was unanimously elected Sheriff in the room of Mr. Wooldridge.

"The election for a Lord Mayor then came on, when the Aldermen eligible for that office were put up; the show of hands appeared in favour of Sir Thomas Hallifax and Sir James Esdaile. George Hayley had also a very respectable appearance. The Sheriffs returned Sir Thomas Hallifax and Sir James Esdaile to the Court of Aldermen, who made choice of the former of those gentlemen to be Lord Mayor for the year ensuing.

"Sir Thomas then came forward, and addressed his fellow-citizens in the following words: –

"Gentlemen of the Livery,—

"As I have the honour of being raised by your free and unbiassed suffrages to the highest dignity which my fellow-citizens can bestow, I desire to express my most warm and grateful acknowledgments for this distinguished mark of your regard. The trust you have committed to me I will never betray; the confidence you may at any time repose in me I will never abuse. It shall always be my study, as chief magistrate, with unremitting perseverance to impartially administer justice, and resolutely to maintain the liberties, independence, and good order of this great city.

"May I presume, gentlemen, without vanity, to remind you, that when, by your favour, I was called to the office of

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Sheriff, I stood undaunted in support of the violated rights of election, and the constitution as by law established. The same spirit which animated my conduct at that conjuncture will, I trust, on no occasion desert me in the discharge of my duty. I have only to add that when I took upon me the office of an Alderman, I was invited and unanimously chosen by the Ward of Aldersgate. Being called upon in so honourable a manner, I thought it a duty incumbent upon me to serve my fellow-citizens in return for the many favours I had received from them, and it will be the height of my ambition if I can now discharge this great trust to your satisfaction."

This firm, decided declaration in favour of the rights and liberties of the people was received with great approbation by the friends of freedom.

The business was conducted with great regularity and decorum, and when over, the Lord Mayor elect returned in the coach with the then Lord Mayor to the Mansion House, where he and some other aldermen, etc., were elegantly entertained; and the rest dined with Mr. Sheriff Plumbe at Goldsmiths' Hall.

The number of Liverymen present was judged to be 3,000. The unanimity prevailing had been unexampled of late years. No hooting, no insults, very little wit indeed. But one good thing was said—"The flock of Michaelmas geese had done hissing since Wilkes ceased to be feeder."

"The entertainment given at the Guildhall," says the *Annual Register*, "on Lord Mayor's Day, when Sir Thomas Hallifax was sworn into that office, was honoured with the presence of the Lord Chancellor, Lord North, four of the Judges, several of the principal officers of State, many of

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the nobility, and an extraordinary number of other persons of distinction, for the first time since the spirit of party took place in the city."

Some insinuations having been thrown out against Sir Thomas Hallifax that he would not support the dignity of his office with proper splendour and spirit, he soon began to disabuse the minds of the public, and, as a leading step, he ordered the State coach to be new gilt and lined. This had not been done since the Mayoralty of Mr. Alderman Townsend, who was at the expense of completely fitting up the said coach by entirely new gilding it, new lining it with a rich blue cut velvet, and purchasing a superb new hammer cloth, and an entirely new set of harness. Since that time it had had very little done to it; but Sir Thomas Hallifax, willing to retrieve the almost lost dignity of the Lord Mayor, was determined not to let the paltry sum of one or two hundred pounds prevail with him to ride about in state in a dirty and tarnished coach.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Sir Thomas and Lady Hallifax) went to Court on Saturday, Jan. 18, 1777, on the occasion of a grand ball at St. James's Palace in honour of Her Majesty's birthday, to pay their compliments to their Majesties. At night, the portico of the Mansion House was brilliantly illuminated.

During Sir Thomas Hallifax's year of office, an Act was passed, to which he lent his support, for the more effectually improving the navigation of the river Thames, and for which he received great encomiums. The Freedom of the City was presented to the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Right Honourable Sir Fletcher Norton, by the Corporation of London, through Sir Thomas—in a

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gold box which he was desired to provide—for having declared in manly terms the real state of the nation to His Majesty on the throne, when he presented to him for his royal assent the bill, entitled, "An Act for the better support of His Majesty's household, and of the honour and dignity of the Crown of Great Britain."

Press-gangs were exciting great indignation both in London and the country at this time, and on several occasions Sir Thomas Hallifax had to protect the rights of citizenship. Although opposed to press-gangs interfering with the rights of citizenship, he, according to the *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1776, p. 529, gave orders to the city marshals to search the public-houses throughout the city and its liberties, and to take into custody all suspected persons, that such as could give no account of themselves might be sent to serve His Majesty; and this was judged to be more effectual than the ordinary mode of pressing.

With such approval was the conduct of the Lord Mayor regarded, that at the close of the poll for Common Councilmen in the ward of Aldersgate, the following motion was made and carried with the most expressive marks of approbation :—

"That the thanks of the Wardmote be given to the Right Hon. Sir Thomas Hallifax, Knight, Lord Mayor of this city, and Alderman of the ward of Aldersgate, for his noble and humane conduct in endeavouring to secure safety to the persons of his fellow-citizens from the rapacious violence of a lawless banditti, by refusing to back press warrants."

The above was presented to his lordship, when he returned the following answer :—

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"I think myself extremely obliged to you for this additional mark of your approbation. I shall on all occasions be ready to give my assistance to promote the interests, and preserve the peace of my Ward. And, as chief magistrate of this city, I will diligently attend to the duties of my office, and to the utmost of my power preserve the rights and liberties of my fellow-citizens."

At a meeting of the Free and United Livery of London, held at the Half Moon Tavern, on the 12th December, 1776, it was resolved, "That the thanks of this Society be given to the Right Hon. Sir Thomas Hallifax, Knight, Lord Mayor of this city, for his having discountenanced and refused to back press warrants;" and on the 22nd of the following month, at a Court of Aldermen, the Lord Mayor presiding, Sir Watkin Lewes made a motion relative to pressing men in the City, which was carried unanimously, and was as follows:—"That the Court do request the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor to order the City Marshals to patrol the streets, and to take to their assistance a sufficient number of constables to apprehend such people as they may find depriving persons of their liberty and detaining them under colour of press warrants, or committing any other breach of the peace."

Other resolutions from the above and other public bodies to Sir Thomas are in the possession of Mrs. Weller Poley, and some official letters from the heads of the Government of that day, entreating him to permit pressing, to which he would in no way comply.

During his year of office, Sir Thomas performed the duties pertaining thereto, and comported himself in the most noble and dignified manner, and at its close, at a meeting of the

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Common Council, held at the Guildhall, it was unanimously resolved that the thanks of the Court be given to him for his application to, and faithful performance of, the duties of his office; for supporting the same with splendour and hospitality, for his diligent attendance to the administration of justice, which he discharged in every instance with candour and impartiality; for his cheerful and ready compliance with the request of his fellow-citizens, whenever they desired to be assembled; for the very able vindication of the Constitutional rights of the subject, by refusing to back press warrants; and for his humanity in relieving the distresses of the poor, and thereby enabling them to enjoy the blessings of a plentiful harvest."

On resigning the civic chair, Sir Thomas received the honour of knighthood, but what cast a deep gloom upon the affair, and upon the family at that time, was the death of his second wife on the 17th November, only a fortnight after the close of the year of his Mayoralty, which had brought such honour to his family and friends. It is little more we can add to the above few particulars of this distinguished man. We find a mention of him in 1781 at a meeting of the Court of Common Council, held at the Guildhall, on the 29th March in that year, when a motion for defraying the expenses of a suit depending between Alderman Sir Thomas Hallifax and the parish of Bury St. Edmunds, for refusing to serve the office of churchwarden, was debated, when it was ordered, that no further expense attending that suit should be incurred, and that all suits of a similar nature should be defrayed by the parties interested. Sir Thomas was a member of the Goldsmiths' Company, in whose hall his arms are set up. From the

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following entry in the court books it will be seen that he became a member in 1753:—

"Sept. 27, 1753.—Thomas Hallifax was sworn and made free by Redemption.—A Banker."

The records of the Corporation of London furnish the following dates of his election to the various municipal offices, but nothing more:—

"1766, 26th November (Wednesday).—Thomas Hallifax elected Aldermen of the Ward of Aldersgate.

"1766, 9th December.—Sworn into the above office at the Court of Aldermen.

"1768, 24th June, 8th Geo. III.—Thomas Hallifax, Esq. and Alderman, elected Sheriff.

"1776, 29th September, 16th Geo. III.—Sir Thomas Hallifax, Knt. and Alderman, elected Mayor."

Sir Thomas does not figure in the list of eminent members and Lord Mayors which Herbert gives in his *History of the Goldsmiths' Company;* and he does not seem to have left any bequests behind him (probably on account of dying suddenly and intestate), and so to have found a place in the Report of the Charity Commissioners. His residence at Enfield, which was on the Chase side (says Robinson, in his *History of Enfield*), had formerly belonged to the Pettiward family, and was sold by the late Roger Pettiward, D.D., to William Cosmo, Duke of Gordon. It is said the celebrated Lord George Gordon was born in this house. Here also died Dr. William Saunders, a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, a gentleman profoundly skilled in his profession, and remarkable for wit and pleasantry in conversation.

Sir Thomas Hallifax was also M.P. for Aylesbury, and

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discharged his Parliamentary duties in the most satisfactory manner.

His death took place unexpectedly and suddenly on the 7th February, 1789, in Birchin Lane, where he died after four days' illness, and as supposed worth £100,000. He was buried on the 17th of February, amid much funeral pomp, in the family vault of the Saviles in Enfield Churchyard, nearly opposite to the south entrance of the church. The hearse was decorated with escutcheons, and attended by seven mourning and eight private coaches, besides the family chariot. The pall was supported by Aldermen Lewes, Peckett, Clarke, Wright, and Hopkins. Deputy Harding, a relation by marriage, walked as chief mourner, followed by Sir Thomas's two sons. On a plain altar monument of white stone, enclosed with iron rails, is the following inscription :—

"In the vault under this tomb are deposited the remains of Dame Margaret Hallifax, wife of the Right Honourable Sir Thomas Hallifax, late Lord Mayor of the City of London, who departed this life the 17th of November, 1777, aged twenty-eight years. She was eldest daughter of John Savile, Esq., of this parish, and has left two sons, Thomas, born on the 9th of February, 1774, and the youngest named Savile, born the 6th November, 1777. Also of Sir Thomas Hallifax, Knight, member of Parliament for the Borough of Alesbury, in Buckinghamshire, Alderman of London, and of Gordon House, in this parish, who departed from us on the 7th day of February, in the year of our Lord 1789, in the 58th year of his age."

The age given in the inscription, 58, is evidently a mistake for 68, as will be seen from his baptismal register.

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In the parish register of Enfield are the following entries of the burial of Sir Thomas and his lady:

"1777 (Hallifax) Nov. 24th, Dame Margaret Hallifax, buried.

"1789 (Hallifax) Feb. 17th, Sir Thos. Hallifax, Kt., buried.

Sir Thomas Hallifax left two sons, who at the time of his death were respectively of the ages of 15 and 11 years, and they were then at school at Cheam. The youngest of these sons, Savile Hallifax, of Waltham Lodge, Essex, we are told, wasted his substance and died unmarried. The elder, Thomas, was presented with the Freedom of the City of London, in 1795, when quite young, and is then described as the son of Sir Thomas Hallifax, citizen and goldsmith; and in 1797, he was admitted a partner in the banking firm, which then consisted of Sir Richard Carr Glyn, Knight, Charles Mills, and Thomas Hallifax, and continued a member of the firm up to the time of his death, above half a century afterwards, on the 7th March, 1850, in the 76th year of his age. He was of Chadacre Hall, Suffolk, an estate which he purchased, along with the manor, in 1823, and on which he erected a splendid family mansion. He was High Sheriff of Suffolk, in 1837. During his shrievalty, Lord Abinger and Mr. Justice Patteson dined with him at Chadacre; and it was on the day following that Lord Abinger was seized with paralysis, from which he died a few days afterwards. Mr. Thomas Hallifax married Anna Maria, daughter of John Staunton, Esq., of Longbridge, and had issue two sons and three daughters. The eldest son was Thomas Hallifax, of Berkeley-square, London, who died, unmarried, before his

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father, on the 5th October, 1849, aged 49. The second son, the Rev. John Savile Hallifax, of Edwardstone House, Suffolk, married Catherine, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Godfrey, of Bury St. Edmunds. He died in 1872, leaving three daughters. Diana, who married on the 3rd October, 1854, Walter Johnson Weller Poley, Esq., of Sudbury; Ellen, born 1797, died 1878, aged 81; and Maria, who died in 1863, aged 66. The Rev. John Hallifax died about 1852.

Maria and Ellen Hallifax succeeded their father at Chadacre Hall, and died unmarried; whilst Diana (Mrs. Poley), is now (1883) the only surviving one. Ellen, the second daughter, died on the 15th Nov., 1878, at Chadacre Hall, possessed of immense wealth, the personalty alone amounting to nearly £300,000. By her will, which was proved by Sir Charles Henry Mills, Bart., Mrs. Diana Weller Poley, her sister, and Alexander Pratt Barlow, the testatrix devised the Chadacre estate to her nephew, John George Weller Poley; and the Wicken Hall and Staunton Park estates to Mrs. Catherine Weller Poley for life, and then in default of issue to Thomas Weller Poley. As to her personal estate, the testatrix bequeathed £50,000 Consols to her said nephew, John George Weller Poley; £50,000 and £7,000 Bank Stock to her said nephew, Thomas Weller Poley; £35,000 Reduced Stock to the said Mrs. Catherine Weller Poley; £35,000 Reduced Stock to Louisa Ann Fitzgerald; £300 per annum for life to Mrs. Catherine Hallifax, the widow of her late brother, John Hallifax; £32,000 New Threes, and £5,000 London and North Western Stock to her sister, Mrs. Diana Weller Poley; £200 each to her executors for their trouble, and the

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residue of her property to her nephew, John George Weller Poley.

There is a small but indifferent portrait of Sir Thomas Hallifax at Chadacre Hall; and there is also a fine painting, by Miller, in the Guildhall, London, from which a curious and rare print has been engraved by Mr. Facius, a copy of which may be also seen in the Guildhall. It contains above one hundred portraits of civic celebrities, including Sir Thomas and his contemporaries. The subject is the swearing in of Alderman Newnham, as Lord Mayor, Nov. 8, 1782.

To return to the other members of the family. George Hallifax, a younger son of John Hallifax, of Barnsley, and brother of Sir Thomas, settled at Doncaster, and was also a man of whom his native town had reason to be proud. "He was," we are told in *Historical Notices of Doncaster*, "far in advance of his age in the manufacture of clocks. He understood their mechanism, and was not ashamed to handle the tools with the best of workmen. George Hallifax was eminent in his death. Although he did not write for the world's fame, he was familiar with the true principles of the craft. His plainness of speech was characteristic; and if he scorned to praise his clocks at the expense of cheapness, he did not hesitate to speak his mind. Alderman Hallifax did not confine his attention to one branch of trade; and if he had a fault, it consisted in the too abundant use of materials. His clocks are not yet out of date; and old-fashioned people maintain that Hallifax keeps good time, and that his chimes, quarter chimes, and dials are capital specimens of workmanship. Doncaster has acquired a reputation for its clocks; and if the old race

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of makers is dying out—and there are none to succeed—the town still contains tradesmen of practical experience, with a thorough knowledge of the mechanism of both clocks and watches. Nor are we aware that Hallifax has been eclipsed by his successors." On the 25th Sept., 1748, Mr. George Hallifax, of Doncaster, married Mrs. Ann Heron, of Darton; and on the 5th September, 1750, he was made a Freeman of the borough of Doncaster, "upon his providing and setting a watch, of the value of seven guineas, in such part of the Mansion House as the Corporation shall direct, and upholding and maintaining the same during so long as he shall continue to live in Doncaster, and upon payment of the usual fees." The watch so called is the time-piece in the vestibule of the Mansion House.* Again, on the 1st June, 1770, it was "Ordered that Mr. George Hallifax make a Dial Clock, the same as at Mr. Broadhead's, of the price of seven guineas, to be put up in the kitchen of the Mansion House." Another of these clocks, made by Mr. Geo. Hallifax, is in the possession of Mr. Charles Jackson, J.P., Doncaster.

Mr. George Hallifax was Mayor of Doncaster in 1775 and 1792, and for several years fülfilled the responsibilities of a justice of the peace, and was recognised as the senior

* "The Corporation had no regular charge for admission to the freedom of the borough, but exercised a discretion in proportion to the probable advantages that might accrue to the applicant. Towards the close of the 18th century, it manifested its dislike to Nonconformists, and fixed such a monied barrier as to be tantamount to their exclusion. It limited within its limited circle persons of distinction, or those identified with the legal or medical profession. It also delighted to acknowledge genius or meritorious conduct, of which Mr. Hallifax is a specimen."—*Historical Account of Doncaster.* 2nd Series, p. 94.

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member of the Corporation. He was famous for his business tactics, and studied the progress of public opinion. On the 21st May, 1792, he read in stentorian voice in the Council Chamber, at the Town Hall, the king's proclamation against seditious works, more particularly referring to those of Thomas Paine. At the close, Mr. Hallifax said he thought the proclamation opportune. He believed that the superstructure of the British Constitution was capable of improvement, but he objected to the mode adopted by the reformers to be inimical to the good order of society. He did not apprehend that Tom Paine and his associates would be popular; still he regarded their works as pregnant with danger. On the 11th June, an address of confidence and loyalty was adopted to the King in answer to the proclamation. Mr. Alderman Hallifax died January 9th, 1811, at the advanced age of 85 years, full of honour, and highly esteemed. His widow survived him 25 years, dying Jan. 28th, 1836, aged 82. Their descendants emigrated to America; his son, George William, died at Lockport, near New York, leaving a son also named George William.

Of Joseph Hallifax, the youngest son of John Hallifax, of Barnsley, we know nothing further than that he was postmaster at Barnsley, and that he was baptized at Barnsley, on the 4th May, 1728, and buried at St. Mary's, Oct. 11, 1762, when comparatively young. He was married, and had four children, one of whom, Thomas, was baptized at Barnsley, Oct. 6, 1758. Joseph also carried on business as a clock-maker, and occasionally, at this day, an old-fashioned clock may be met with, bearing the name of Joseph Hallifax, Barnsley, as maker.

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The following appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, March 7th, 1789 :—

"Died at Kenilworth, county of Warwick, Mrs. Hallifax, wife of John Hallifax, Esq., brother to the late Sir Thomas Hallifax, of Birchin Lane."

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No. VIII.

John Charles Brooke, the Herald, and the Family of Brooke, of Dodworth.

JOHN CHARLES BROOKE, the distinguished Herald, was born at Fieldhead, in the township of Dodworth, in 1748. In the Silkstone parish register is the following entry: "Aug. 27th, 1748, John Charles, son of Dr. Brooke, of Fieldhead, baptized." The house in which he was born is still standing, and is situated on an eminence commanding a fine prospect near the road leading from Dodworth to Silkstone. The family was the principal one in Dodworth for nearly two centuries. One of their first residences there was the substantial building situate in the town street, commonly designated the Old Hall, a three gabled edifice, which was erected by William Brooke, the first of the name who resided there. Over one of the doorways is inscribed W. B., 1624, and over a second W. B. 1641. To his second son, John Brooke, his father gave the estate in Dodworth called Pond House Farm, upon which he had built a house in 1648—the date of its erection, and his initials being over the doorway.

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JOHN CHARLES BROOKE, F.S.A., SOMERSET HERALD.

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This estate 130 years afterwards came into the possession of John Charles Brooke, the Herald, who in a letter dated from Heralds' College, Dec. 12th, 1779, to Mr. Richard Gough, the antiquary, makes the following allusion to it: "I have got an excellent old stone house [at Dodworth] built by my great, great, great, grandfather Brooke, in the year 1648, as by the date and his initials over the door, who gave it with the estate to a younger son, the last of whose branch entailed it upon me, in failure of issue of his heir-at-law, who died in May last."

The family of Brooke had settled at Dodworth in the early part of the seventeenth century. One of their ancestors is said to have been Robert Brooke, Esq., mercer, citizen, Alderman, and Lord Mayor of York in the years 1583 and 1595, and to whom there is, or was, an inscription in the Church of All Saints. Of these York Brookes was James, a merchant and Lord Mayor of that city in 1651; and again in 1661 he was Lord Mayor by express mandate from his Majesty Charles II. Of this branch were the two celebrated brothers, Samuel, D.D., Master of Trinity College, Oxford, and Archdeacon of Coventry, author of the *Armenian Treatise on Predestination*, which Prynne says he presented to Archbishop Laud in 1630; and Christopher Brooke, who, leaving one of our Universities, studied at Lincoln's Inn, where he was distinguished by his great abilities, especially in his elegy consecrated to the memory of Henry, Prince of Wales, published in 1613. From a bencher he became Summer Reader and was a benefactor to the chapel. Few could boast a more learned acquaintance. Among his friends were Mr. Selden, Ben Jonson, Michael Drayton, George Withers, John Davies, of Hereford, and

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William Browne, gent., of the Inner Temple, to whom he dedicated his *Eclogues*, in 1614, and gave him verses to prefix to his *Britannia's Pastorals.* He also gave Drayton other verses for his *Legend of Great Cromwell*, and he contributed to the *Odcombian Banquet*, printed in 1611. He represented York in the 18th and 21st of James I., and in the two first Parliaments of Charles I. The learned Christopher Brooke, the mathematician, patronised by that great philosopher Dr. Wilkins, Bishop of Chester, was of this family. One of the more immediate ancestors of the herald was the Rev. John Brooke, Fellow of University College, Oxford, who became D.D. in 1612. He was rector of Emley and vicar of Silkstone, and in 1615, became precentor and Canon Residentiary of York, where he died March 23rd, 1616, aged 49 years. He was buried in York Minster, and a monument with an elaborate inscription was placed there to his memory.*

John Hobson, of Dodworth Green, in his Journal, under date May 2, 1727, says :—"Saw the tombs in the Cathedral at York, one for Mr. Brooke, formerly minister of Emley and Silkston." The vicarage of Silkstone he resigned the

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* In the Church of Emley is the following memorial :—"Here resteth the Body of Mrs. Dorothy Brooke, wife to the R. W. John Brooke, Dr. of Divinity, and preceptor of the Metropolitan Church of St. Peter's of Yorke, descended of worshipfull parentage, born at Northampton, lived here x yeares out of her country, but is now ascended in her better part to that cittie which hath a foundation. In wisdome, modesty, knowledge, gravity, rare sobriety she surpassed most of her sex. She lived in all virtue and died in the faith and now resteth full of Immortality. Changed this life the 6th of Feb., beeing her birthday, A°. Dni. 1614 of her age 38." (Some lines follow.)—*Dodsworth's Notes* (*Abrigg*) *Arch. Journal*, part xxv. p. 129.

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year before his death, and he was succeeded there by the Rev. Wm. Bardon, B.A.

William Brooke, second son of Thomas Brooke, of Newhouse, in the parish of Huddersfield, was the first of the family who settled at Dodworth. He purchased a considerable estate there in 1621, and built a good house upon it in 1624. He had afterwards lands and property in Carlton, Roystone, and Adwick-upon-Dearne, left him by his father. In 1630 he paid a fine for declining to receive the honour of knighthood on the coronation of Charles I., and he also refused to answer the summons of Sir Wm. Dugdale to record his arms, at the Visitation of 1665.* He died at Dodworth, and was buried in the chancel of Silkstone church on

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* Francis Popely, of Woolley Morehouse, in the township of Woolley, was also fined for refusing the honour of knighthood in 1630. Among the persons who declined to answer the summons of Sir William Dugdale to attend his visitation in this district to record proof of their arms, are the following :—

"Barnsley.....	Robert Daniel and Richard Taylor.
Ardsley	Richard Mawhood.
Brierley	George Holgate.
Dodworth	Mr. Senior and Mr. Brooke.
Hemsworth ...	Mr. Wrightson and Thomas Ramsden.
Gunthwaite ...	Mr. Sedascue.
Penistone	Josiah Wordsworth.
Woolley	Edward Prince.
Monk-Bretton..	John Crooks, Robert Wood, and George Cooper."

See *Dugdale's Visitation of Yorkshire*, 1665.

On this subject a Herald of long standing, writing to *Notes and Queries*, Fourth Series, vol. vii., in reply to a query, says :—"The way in which coat armour was assigned, it must be remembered, was by the Heralds in their visitations, when each gentleman of a very small freehold estate was summoned and made to pay for the proper entry of his Arms

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the 22nd May, 1688, in the 88th year of his age. His sister, Jennet, who had married Henry Walker, of Rockley Old Hall, lord of the Manor there, died 6th Oct., 1652. William Brooke had a large family. The eldest son was Thomas, who died in 1687; William; John, of Pond House, in Dodworth, died 1671; Jonathan, died at sea; Joshua, a merchant, of London, died 1696; Timothy, a citizen of London; and two daughters. On the death of the above William, in 1672, he was succeeded by Thomas, who left issue, William, of Dodworth, gent., born 1643, died 1680; Thomas, of Woodhouse, in Dodworth; and John, M.A., rector of High Hoyland, who died without issue in 1725. In Sir Michael Wentworth's regiment of Militia, in 1680, there was a Thomas Brooke, of Dodworth, pikeman, and William Brooke, of the same place, musketeer. The above Rev. John Brooke, rector of High Hoyland, was instituted to the benefice on the 20th Jan., 1687, on the presentation of Sir Mathew Wentworth, of Bretton. He held the two medieties of this good living, which was the first time they were both held by the same person. He died possessed

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and Crest, or his coat armour only. But oftentimes the heads of families, to use a slang expression, 'squared' the matter with the Heralds, and conveyed themselves away, not being willing to have the honour then thrust upon them. Nor was it alone as regards the bearing of coat armour that the retiring nature of Englishmen was shown. In the first pages of *Evelyn's Memoirs* it will be found that gentleman's father paid a fine rather than be made a Knight; and it is well known that Knights were not then much thought of. Honour was valued very cheaply, and King James's notion of making a batch of Baronets was no new idea, only he held out the bait and added novelty to it. Before his time gentlemen were called up to be honoured, and fined heavily if they did not submit to be honoured."

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of these November 27, 1725, and was buried at Silkstone.* Mr. Brooke distinguished himself as an antiquarian, and made large collections for the History of the County of York. Thoresby, in his Diary, May 13, 1720, says :—"Visited Parson Brooke, of High Hoyland, to consult some manuscripts." In a note to this entry in the Diary, it is said :—"This clergyman was another of the not small band of persons who collected the materials for 'The History and Topography of the West Riding of Yorkshire. What he collected passed into the hands of his great nephew, John Charles Brooke, the Somerset Herald."†

William,‡ the eldest son of Thomas Brooke, married

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* "Dec. 1, 1725.—Mr. John Brooke, of Fieldhead, parson of High Hoyland, buried."—*Silkstone Parish Register.*

"Mr. Brooke, the Parson of Hoyland-o'th-Hill, buried Dec. 2, 1725."—*Northowram Register.*

† "Mr. John Binns, a noted bookseller at Leeds, published a catalogue there, and bought in his time many good libraries, among which were those of the Rev. Mr. Brooke, rector of High Hoyland, Rev. Mr. Whitaker, &c. He died in 1796."—Nichol's *Literary Anecdotes.*

‡ In the *Subsidy Roll* of 1663, it will be seen from the following extract that William Brooke was the largest landowner in Dodworth :—

William Brooke.....	in ter	ij*l.*
Thomas Senior, gener. ...	,, ...	xxx*s.*
John Atkinson	,, ...	xxij*s.* viij*d.*
John Hobson.....	,, ...	xxx*s.*
John Kay	,, ...	xx*s.*
Thomas Keresforth, gener.	,, ...	xx*s.*
John Wordsworth.....	,, ...	xx*s.*
Thomas Pigott	,, ...	xxx*s.*
Lawrence Champney	,, ...	xx*s.*
Edward Rawson	,, ...	xxviij*s.* viij*d.*
Ralph Foster.....	,, ...	xx*s.*

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Mary, daughter of William Oates, of Nether Denby, and they had issue, Thomas Brooke, M.A., rector of Richmond; William, who died in Virginia; and several daughters.* The rector, who was born at Dodworth, in 1669, and died at Richmond, in 1739, married Mary, second daughter of Thomas Comber, D.D., chaplain in ordinary to their Majesties, William and Mary, and Dean of Durham. He had only one son and one daughter. The latter married Richard Fenton, Esq., of Bank Top,† barrister-at-law, and Clerk of the Peace for the West Riding. The son was William Brooke, of Fieldhead and Dodworth, M.D., and M.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, who was born 29th August, 1706, and died 24th August, 1755. He was in the Commission of the Peace, and inherited the Fieldhead estate, as heir-at-law to his uncle, the Rev. John Brooke, rector of High Hoyland.

On a panel over the fireplace in one of the rooms at Fieldhead is a portrait of Dr. Brooke, who was killed by a fall from his horse on what is called "Doctor's-hill," the

* The Rector of Richmond often preached at Silkstone Church. In Hobson's Journal there are many entries such as the following :—

"1727, Feb. 19, Sunday.—At [Silkstone] Church. Mr. Brooke, of Richmond, preached.

1728, June 7.—At the funerall of Mrs. Brooke, of Fieldhead, who died the Tuesday before at noon." [This was the widow of the Rev. John Brooke, rector of High Hoyland, and daughter of William Oates, of Nether Denby].

In the *Farish Register* of the same date we find the entry, "Mrs. Brooke, of Fieldhead, buried."

† Anne Brooke married Richard Fenton, of Bank Top, by whom she had issue several children, one only of whom left issue—viz., Mary, who married Sir William Wake, of Courteen Hall, in the county of Northampton, baronet.

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road leading from Fieldhead into the turnpike. In the correspondence of Dr. Richardson, of Bierley, the botanist and antiquary, there is an anecdote told of Dr. Brooke. It is in the postscript of a letter from Mr. Thomas Wilson to Dr. Richardson, which is dated Oct. 31, 1751, and says :— "The question whether the manuscripts were returned puts me in mind of a dispute with Dr. Brooke, of Fieldhead, of whom I borrowed a copy of *Doomsday Book*, which he gave me leave to copy for myself, as well as for Dr. Burton, and which I finished in six months, and returned him his copy. Soon after he fell into a melancholy disorder, which continued about three years; afterwards he sent a person to ask me if I returned his manuscript, which obliged me to send to him the very person I returned it by—viz., Mr. Lee, a painter, then painting for him, when I returned it, who, I presume, gave him satisfaction, for I have not heard from him since." * Among the subscribers for the defence

* "Mr. Frank, of Pontefract, informed the Society of Antiquaries, in 1755, of an unnoticed copy of *Doomsday* for Yorkshire, in the hands of the Marquis of Rockingham, into whose family it came from William, Earl of Strafford, for whom it was transcribed in 1666, under the direction of Sir Wm. Dugdale, and at the desire of Dr. Johnston, of which Dr. Richard Goodwin, rector of Tankersley, while chaplain to the late Lord Rockingham, took a *fac simile* copy, which was afterwards in the hands of James Walker, Esq., of Springhead, in Yorkshire, who married Dr. Goodwin's daughter. Another copy, supposed from Lord Rockingham's, was in the possession of William Brooke, of Dodworth, near Barnsley, Esq., now in the hands of his son, John Charles Brooke, Esq., Somerset Herald, from which two other copies were taken in 1745, by Thomas Wilson, schoolmaster, at Leeds, one for Dr. Burton, the other for Richard Richardson, of North Bierley, Esq., now in his possession (1780)."—Gough's *British Topography*, vol. ii., p. 404.

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of the country at the threatened rebellion of 1745, we find under Dodworth: "Dr. Brooke, £5 5s.; William Fenton, £5; Wm. Hobson, £5; and Mrs. Thompson, £1 1s."

Dr. Brooke married Alice, daughter and one of the coheirs of William Mawhood, Alderman and Mayor of Doncaster (of an old Ardsley family, and doubly related on her mother's side to Alexander Pope),* and had issue, William Brooke, of Fieldhead and Dodworth, a deputy-lieutenant of the West Riding, who was an attorney, and in the latter years of his life lived at Wakefield, where he died in 1821; and John Charles, the eminent Herald. Mary Brooke, the eldest daughter, married, in 1763, her cousin, Thomas Comber, LL.D., grandson of Dr. Comber, dean of Durham. John Charles Brooke, writing from Heralds' College to Mr. Gough, April 21, 1778, gives the following account of Dr. Comber's death:—"I received a letter to-day with the account of the death of my brother, Dr. Comber, at Buckworth, of a paralytic stroke. He was a man of much learning and industry, but too fond of the things of this world. He wrote several things, but nothing of any consequence. I shall send a small account of him to Dr. Kippis, which may do for a note in his grandfather's article in the *Biographica Britannica*."†

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* The Micklethwaits made considerable purchases at Ardsley, including the Manor, of Col. Charles Mawhood, who was gentleman usher to George III.

† "Thomas Comber, eldest son of Thomas Comber, Esq., of East Newton, in the North Riding, and grandson of the pious and learned Dr. Comber, Dean of Durham, married his cousin, Mary, eldest daughter of Wm. Brooke, of Dodworth, Esq., by whom he had five children. He possessed a noble collection of letters addressed to his grandfather, the Dean, from Tillotson, Sharp, Burnet, Hickes, Cave,

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Margaret, the second daughter, married the Rev. Thomas Zouch, D.D., rector of Sandal, a man of great note, who declined the bishopric of Carlisle in 1808. Robert Southey (*Life and Correspondence*) says of him : "One day I dined with Dr. Zouch, who wrote the 'Life of Sir Philip Sydney.' I never saw a gentler minded man." Dr. Zouch, who was the author of several other works, died Dec. 17, 1815, in the 78th year of his age.

John Charles Brooke, the second son of Dr. Brooke, inherited the tastes of his ancestors, and from his youth evinced a warm interest in genealogical and antiquarian pursuits. The collections of his uncle, the Rev. John Brooke, rector of High Hoyland, descended to him, and in the course of a few years he had greatly enlarged them by his own industry, and by copying the manuscripts of Dodsworth, relating to Yorkshire. He lost his father when only about seven years of age, and his guardians having decided to send him to London, he was apprenticed to Mr. James Kirby, a chemist, in Bartlett's Buildings, Holborn; but his taste for literature ill-suited with trade. History,

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Lake, and other eminent divines of the 17th century. The late Archdeacon Blackburne had seen and perused most of them, and often regretted that so many curious particulars relative to the times in which they were written should be lost to the public. Writing to Dr. Kippis, in 1783, the Archdeacon says : 'They are yet preserved ; but perhaps greatly injured by damp and other accidents, in the uninhabited and ruinous mansion house, appertaining to the family at East Newton.' Comber was a man of considerable parts and learning, and author of several controversial tracts. He was of Jesus College, Cambridge; B.A., 1744 ; M.A., 1770 ; and LL.D., 1777, Rector of Kirkby Misperton, Yorkshire ; and afterwards Rector of Morborne, in Huntingdonshire."—Nichol's *Literary Anecdotes*, vol. i., pp. 601-2.

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biography, genealogy, and heraldry, were more pleasant studies to the youthful apprentice than attending the laboratory. He indulged in his favourite pursuits when he had the leisure and opportunity. Having drawn a pedigree of the Howard family in a masterly manner, it procured him the patronage of the then Duke of Norfolk, who obtained him admission into the College of Arms. He was afterwards desired by the Duke to write a Latin preface to *Doomsday Book*, then about to be issued. He was in 1773 appointed Rouge Croix Pursuivant in the College, and four years afterwards was made Somerset Herald. He was elected a member of the Society of Antiquaries in 1775, and but for his unfortunate and premature death in 1794, there is little doubt but that he would have reached the highest point in his profession. Mr. Brooke, in 1778, began making collections for a work which he proposed should accompany the *Doomsday Book* when published, and which was to comprise "A History of all the tenants in Capite mentioned therein, with their pedigrees, and an account of their families, as long as the estates continued in possession of the male line; and to notice those families, who, as heirs general, still inherited property by descent from them. To be illustrated with deeds in the time of the Conqueror, seals, and other monuments. Likewise an account of such Saxons as held under them as vavasors; and to notice their descendants where he could meet with them. To notice such churches as are mentioned in *Doomsday*, and which, by their present remains, showed their existence in the time of the Saxons, with views of such Saxon fragments."

Such a work it was stated would throw much greater light on the state of the Saxons at the Conquest than any that

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had previously appeared, but he did not finish it. Mr. Brooke was made free of the Ironmongers' Company, in the City of London, on the 29th April, 1772, and was appointed by his patron, the Duke of Norfolk, at a later period, one of the Lieutenants of the Militia of the West Riding of his native county.*

His engagements at the Heralds' College brought him to pay attention to other families and other parts of the kingdom. But his favourite subject was ever the Yorkshire genealogies and the topography of Yorkshire; and few men did more than he did both in transcribing the labours of former antiquaries, and in adding to them information, which he sought in all quarters with great assiduity. He has many original pedigrees; and there is much information nowhere else to be found in the volumes of his Yorkshire collections. He meditated to have published a History of the County, but it does not appear that he ever formally issued proposals for such a work, or that he ever wrote any part of it; but there is no telling what he might have done if his life had been prolonged, for from the time of Dr. Nathaniel Johnston, the antiquary, who died in 1727, the Rev. Joseph Hunter has said: "there was no one whose ambition reached to the illustration of the whole of that great county, and who brought as much enthusiasm, and knowledge, and more taste to the office than did John Charles Brooke. The best additions which have been made to Hopkinson's pedigrees are those by the Rev. John Brooke, Rector of High Hoyland, and John Charles Brooke, Esq., the Somerset Herald. The latter was the gentleman

* *History of the College of Arms*, by the Rev. Mark Noble, p. 428.

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to whom, of all her sons, the county might have looked for an ample display of her history and topography. "The continuation of Hopkinson by the two Brookes is now in the library of the Heralds' College. But what Brooke did for the illustration of his native county is not to be looked upon as a continuation of Hopkinson. In other volumes of his collections we have many original pedigrees of families who stepped into the rank of gentry and became possessed of lands and manors, after the time of Hopkinson. These I have found of signal use, as well as many remarks of his on points not genealogical."

In 1778, Mr. Brooke made a tour through his native district, and in a letter to Mr. Gough, dated from Northgate, Wakefield, on October 31, he says: "I received the favour of your letter, and am extremely sorry it has not been in my power to finish your *Yorkshire Topography*, nor can I till my return to town, which I hope will be within a fortnight, and then it shall be my first business. I have been extremely happy in making antiquarian surveys of this county since my arrival, and have collected large materials. The Churches in these parts afford many more curiosities than those in the Southern Counties, which may be accounted for from the more people of wealth which, by reason of the manufactories, have resided here. I have collected such a variety of crosses, that I propose having a portfolio on purpose for them; and I think such a collection may hereafter be of much use. Crosses are often found over incumbents in Churches, where there is nothing else worth observation; and by comparing the forms of those without dates with those that have them, their ages may be nearly ascertained, and then the dates of the erection of

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Churches and different parts of them, may be the better discovered."*

In a letter to Mr. Wilson, of Broomhead (*South Yorkshire*, Vol. II. p. 263), on this subject, Mr. Brooke says: "I have made large collections for composing the History of the West Riding of Yorkshire; as to the antiquities, descent of property, families, etc., which, perhaps, at some future period, when I have more leisure than at present, I may digest for the press. I first began with the Wapentake of Staincross, as being my native district, and made considerable progress in it, but Mr. Currer having made large collections for Staincliffe, and obligingly communicated them to me, I have of late chiefly attended to that tract, and have nearly completed it. I propose proceeding in the way of an Itinerary, and have enclosed you a draft of what I intend saying about Pilley. I must observe to you that, in families of greater eminence, such as the Wortleys, Bosviles, etc., or those which are now in being, I shall give a more copious history; but were each trifling transaction or conveyance of land to be noticed in those which are now extinct, and were of small account, though they possessed a manor, it would swell a work to an enormous size, and render it dry and unentertaining to the generality of readers."

At a later period, we are told, Mr. Brooke was intimately acquainted with Mr. Hatfield Kaye, of Hatfield House, and for some time of Wentworth Castle, near Barnsley, a person of literary tastes, whose bias was more particularly for

* Nichol's *Literary Illustrations*, Vol. vi., p. 379.

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topographical and historical enquiries.* Nor was he a mere admirer of these interesting and useful pursuits, for he undertook along with Richard Henry Beaumont, of Whitley Hall, Esq., Mr. Wilson of Broomhead, and Mr. Brooke, to assist in writing a History of the West Riding of the County of York. In this stupendous undertaking Mr. Beaumont was to undertake Agbrigg; Mr. Hatfield Kaye, Morley; Mr. Wilson, the western part of Strafford; and Mr. Brooke, the remainder of Strafford with Staincross and Osgoldcross. But from causes not probably known, unless by the sudden and unexpected death of Mr. Brooke, it was never published, and perhaps never compiled. Mr. Brooke, in one of his letters, speaks of Mr. Beaumont as a most ingenious young gentleman, and as having the largest collection of deeds which he ever saw in private hands, from which he would be able to elucidate many things with regard to the descent of property, etc.; and he also compliments Mr. Wilson, of Broomhead, on his great knowledge of the antiquities that surround him."

Mr. Brooke's heraldic merit was best known to those within the College, and to those out of it who were masters of the science. His collections, made during many excursions in his own country, and one to the Continent, were considerable;

* Mr. Hatfield Kaye married—30th May, 1772—Miss Wentworth, of Henbury, in Dorsetshire, whose brother afterwards became Earl of Strafford, of Wentworth Castle. He dying without issue, Mr. Hatfield Kaye came into possession of that estate in right of his wife; which, however, neither of them lived long to enjoy. Mrs. Hatfield Kaye died at Wentworth Castle, 25th October, 1802, and Mr. Hatfield Kaye died in 1804 at Hatfield House, near Wakefield, in the 73rd year of his age, and on his death the Wentworth Castle estates descended to the Vernon family.

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and his application to his studies indefatigable. His few publications are confined to the *Archæologia* of the Society of Antiquaries,* and some communications to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, signed J. B. He assisted Dr. Nash in the early part of his Worcestershire collections, and Mr. Gough in the account of Yorkshire in his edition of *Camden's Britannia*. He also contributed to Bigland's *Gloucestershire*, Worsley's *Isle of Wight*, and King's *Castles*. He furnished the Memoirs of the Neviles to Pegge's *Forme of Cury;* and several of the descriptions in Hearne and Byrne's *Views*. To the *Archæologia* he contributed "Conjectures on a Seal of Sir Francis Worsley," "The

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* *Archæologia*. Vol. iv. p. 182; v. pp. 183, 211, 367; vii. p. 416.

William Cole, in his MSS. (*Cole's Athe Cantab., Addl. MSS. Brit: Museum*, 5,864 fol. 313) has recorded the following note respecting Brooke: "Dr. Lort coming from Lambeth last night and dining with me this Sunday, July 30, 1780, told me that Mr. Brooke, who had called upon me some four or five years ago, with Mr. Gough, had been detected in cutting out some leaves, etc., in a manuscript in the British Museum, the consequence of which was that he was discharged from ever coming there again, and made his company avoided by other people. It had been agreed at a meeting of the Antiquaries' Society that some of the members should be deputed to visit St. Faith's Church, under St. Paul's Cathedral, to see what discoveries could be there made. Dr. Lort was one of them, to whom Mr. Gough wrote, desiring to know whether he might bring Mr. Brooke with him, to whom an answer was sent in the negative. He is now at Brussels, whither he lately went with a Roman Catholic gentleman, to enter his daughter at the Dames Angloises Augustines, from whence he wrote very lately to Mr. Gough, desiring him to direct to Monsier le Chevalier Brooke à Brusselles. If Mr. Gough complies with his request, I think he will be an accomplice, and answerable in some degree for any imposture or knavery he may be guilty of under that title. He is a Yorkshire or northern man, as I think he told me, thin and well shaped, pert, and a coxcomb, and has a thing

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Ceremonial of Making the King's Bed," "Illustration of a Saxon Inscription in the Church of Kirkdale, in the North Riding of Yorkshire;" "Account of an Ancient Seal of Robert Baron Fitz Walter;" "Description of the Great Seal of Queen Catherine Parr, and Mary d'Este, second wife of James II.;" "Illustration of a Saxon Inscription in Aldborough Church, in Holderness;" "A Deed belonging to the Manor of Nether Sitlington, County York." It was hoped, says a writer of that period, that he would have given us the great seals of our sovereigns, their consorts, and those of the Royal Family, the nobility, prelates, religious houses, and other public bodies. None, it was said by those who knew him intimately, could so well have done what was so much wanted; and for which he had made collections. He had also collected materials for a new edition of *Thoroton's Nottinghamshire;* of *Sandford's*

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or two in the *Archæologia.*" The above extract from Cole's MSS. having been published in *Notes and Queries, Second Series,* vol. xvi. p. 130, Mr. John Gough Nichols wrote the following reply: "No time should be lost in contradicting the slander copied from Cole's MSS., for it was surely wholly unfounded, as Mr. Brooke continued to enjoy the esteem of a large circle of friends throughout the year 1780, and until his unfortunate death, nearly fourteen years after; when his funeral was attended not only by his brother Heralds, but by the Earl Marshal (Duke of Norfolk), the Presidents of the Societies of Antiquaries and Royal Society (the Earl of Leicester, and Sir Joseph Banks), by John Topham, Craven Ord, and Edmund Turner, Fellows of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies; the Rev. John Brand, John Caley, James Moore, and John Lambert, Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries—most of them still very generally known for their eminence and high character. His epitaph in St. Benets', Paul's Wharf (which is printed ibid p. 358), was written by the late Norroy, Mr. Lodge.—John Gough Nichols."—*Notes and Queries,* 2nd Series 86, p. 160.

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Genealogical History—great desiderata to the antiquary. A descriptive list of the pictures at Worksop Manor by Mr. Brooke, 1784, is at the British Museum, in the Musgrave Collection (*Add. MSS.*, 5,726); and a list of those at Cowdray, with additions by Mr. Brooke, is printed in *Dallaway's Sussex.*

Mr. Brooke was a constant attender of the meetings of the Society of Antiquaries, as will appear by his reports to Mr. Gough in his correspondence in Vol. VI. of *Nichol's Literary Illustrations*, from which we give the following extracts :—

In a letter to Mr. Gough, dated Heralds' College, April 12th, 1777, Mr. Brooke says: "I spent yesterday at Mr. Brander's, with Mr. Pegge, Sir Joseph Ayloffe, Grose, etc. . . . . Dr. Nash is in town; he spent the evening with us on Thursday, and inquired much after you; he stays about a month. He does not seem to have the least design of laying aside his work (the *History of Worcestershire*), but appears very sanguine about it. Sir Edward Blackett was at the Society on Thursday; spoke to him about the Durham sword, which is now in his possession as Lord of the Manor of Sockburne. He says that when the present Bishop took possession of his Diocese, his steward, who performed the ceremony, imprudently cleaned it up, and had the blade new ground. Mr. Bigland desires his compliments to you, with many thanks for the prints of the Duke of Clarence's tomb at Tewkesbury, which he had not got."

"Aug. 20th, 1777.—I am quite in raptures with the Aldbrough inscription. I have found so much curious matter relating to it as I hope will make it a most interesting dish for the Society. If Mr. Dade's letter to me on the subject

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is not sufficiently satisfactory, I do not know but that I may go seventy miles, when in Yorkshire, on purpose to see it. Messrs. Brander, Topham, Currer, and self rise at six to-morrow morning, breakfast at Highbury Barn, and go to survey Jack Straw's Castle, dine together, and finish the day at the Museum. You think, while basking on the sunny banks of Forty Hill, that we Cits can have no pleasures in town in summer, but you are much mistaken; we have many agreeable antiquarian parties, and manage to pass our time extremely well. We have already passed judgment on the fortification near Copenhagen House; and have unanimously exploded your conjecture, which I hinted to them, that it was raised in the Civil Wars."

"Sept. 19, 1777.—I have been little interrupted of late, which has enabled me to do much business; and I have particularly employed myself about *Sandford's Genealogical History*, a new edition of which I much wish to see, and find that I have near twenty ceremonials (funerals, baptisms, etc.), as many monuments, and near as many royal seals, besides other curious anecdotes, not inserted in that work. I have lately discovered the procession to the funeral of Anne of Cleves, which I think would do well to accompany her monument when produced at the Society."

"Heralds' College, Oct. 14, 1777.—As we have now deposited the Earl Marshal in the chantry, founded by his ancestors, in the church at Arundel (the funeral of the late Edward Duke of Norfolk had taken place on the 1st of the month), I shall be soon more at liberty, and propose, before the expiration of the month, spending a few days with you. Are the two royal seals to be in the next volume of *Archæologia?* because I shall make some additions to the

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account of Queen Katherine Parr. I have found the ceremonial of her funeral at Sudley, not yet printed that I can find, with an abstract of the Protestant sermon preached by Dr. Coverdale on the occasion, 'which was verie goode and godlie, and did much profitte the auditours, tho' not the dede.' I have begun arranging my *Sigilla Magnatum* in portfolios; where I propose giving some account of the parties, with reference to Dugdale's *Baronetage*, and numbered. It is my intention of collecting drawings of seals, so as to prove the arms of every family treated on in Dugdale thereby. If you have any duplicates which are engraved, I make no scruple of asking you for them, because I shall give you other prints in return; and I propose collecting all that are published before I have any drawn."

"Friday, December, 1777. We had a very agreeable meeting last night; present, the Dean, King, Bartlett, Brander, Topham, Barrington, Drs. Hunter, Layard, d'Argent, etc., and much entertaining matter. A curious MS., on vellum, communicated by Sir John Hawkins, containing curses pronounced by some religious house against delinquents, and some antient music. Mr. King produced a most exquisite drawing of the elevation of the east end of Henry the Seventh's Chapel; Mr Strong a fine seal; read a paper from Pegge to Brander on stone coffins found at Christ Church; a Roman inscription found at Whitby, likewise produced, with an explanation in a letter from Dr. Percy. Bartlett will subscribe to *Thetford*; or, as he says, anything you are concerned in. Brander says he is desirous of being sociable these dark days before Christmas; and therefore the Crown and Anchor Club will soon meet."

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"May 22, 1778. In pursuance of a note from the Lord Chamberlain, we had yesterday a Chapter at his office to consider of a proper ceremonial for Lord Chatham's funeral; to-day our report was made to him, and to-morrow is to be laid before the king in Council for his approbation or alteration. It will be chiefly the same as that of Monk, Duke of Albemarle, with the omission of military trophies, to which Lord Chatham can have no right."

"June 5, 1778. Lord Exeter called on me this week; has promised me drawings of several abbey seals in his possession, belonging to dissolved houses, of which he is owner, as likewise to bring up several ancient deeds, etc., for my inspection. What treasures may we not expect from the archives of a family which began to flourish so soon after the dissolution!"

"Nov. 25, 1778. Attended the King to the House to-day; approaching wars and tumults."

"Herald's College, Nov. 20, 1778. I am returned from the country, after one of the most agreeable tours I ever yet had, loaded with antiquities; and (to use Christie's expressive phrase) ready to burst with health. I shall be glad to know what you have done with your *Yorkshire Topography*; whether the press is yet standing, or you defer my observations till the appendix, as I am ready to give you any assistance."

Mr. Gough to Mr. Brooke.—"Enfield, Nov. 21, 1778. I am glad to find you are at last returned, so able and willing to assist your friends. I was going to have renewed my expostulations, but you have disarmed me. The *Topography* is all in your room; and you will oblige me by dispatching it altogether to Mr. Nichol's as soon as you have done with it;

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you have full power over it. Dr. Nash has a demand on you for pedigrees. Walsh's has awaited your return; and if not on your table may be at Nichol's. Pray God send that neither war nor installation may interrupt your lucubrations on this side Christmas. Whenever you want a mouthful of country air, you will find a well-aired bed here."

Mr. Brooke to Mr. Gough.—"Wakefield, Oct. 27, 1780. A few days ago I paid a visit to Mr. Waterton, of Walton Hall, nephew to my good friend Mrs. Mary Augustina More, Prioress of the Convent of Augustine Dames at Bruges, and delivered to him and his lady the presents I brought from Mrs. More to them. I mention this visit to you on two accounts, first to describe to you the beautiful situation of Walton Hall, which is extremely romantic and singular; though I think hitherto unnoticed, except by Leland, who in his *Itinerary* mentions Maister Waterton, of Walton, as an antient gentleman of fair lands, or the like. The house is built on a rock in a large lake, near a mile over, and of considerable depth, to which you have admittance over a drawbridge, leading into an exceedingly antient postern. Having passed this gate, you enter a court, one square of which is a modern house, elegantly fitted up, where the family reside, another the offices, and a third is open to the lake, and beautifully laid out in walks, the whole surface of the rock having been levelled for the convenience of the house. The lake is surrounded with hills, laid out in pasture and woods, the whole forming a view most agreeably striking. Such objects we often see in Italian and Dutch pictures, but are rarely met with in this country. Mr. Waterton is a Catholic, of antient family and good estate. . . . I have collected for you, since my arrival, some beautiful crosses

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from tombstones, with inscriptions and dates, and for people of note, of whom I can furnish some little history, which will render them more interesting than mere blanks, if heareafter you choose to send them forth to the world."

Mr. Brooke to Mr. Gough.—"Heralds' College, Dec. 14, 1780.—On Tuesday last I dined at the Duke of Norfolk's, and your *Topographical Anecdotes* made a part of the conversation. Lord Surrey had seen it, and pronounces it one of the most laborious, curious, and useful works the English press has produced of late years. He recommended it to the Duke, who sent for it while I was there from Payne, and is now busy going through it. Lord Surrey has given me an invitation to spend a few days with him these Christmas holidays at Arundel Castle, which I probably may accept; and in that case shall also see Cowdray, Lord Montagu having given me a like invitation. I expect much pleasure from visiting these two peers in the houses which have so long been the seats of their noble families." . . . . . .

Mr. Brooke to Mr. Gough.—"Heralds' College, June 9, 1780.—I return you thanks for the favour of your kind letter of inquiries, and answer it by return of post to inform you that we are here, thank God! all safe; which in some measure has been owing to a party of Guards placed in St. Paul's Church, sent there upon the joint petition of our body and the Commons, both places having been threatened with destruction for no other reason than that they contained records of value. The choicest of our books we piled up in an arched vault in the building, and covered over with stones and tiles, as the safest defence against fire, not knowing of any place of security to which to send them.

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Since martial law has been proclaimed we have been pretty quiet; but people are so terrified that few stir abroad. It is said preparation is making on Tower Hill for the execution, this evening, of a number of the ring-leaders. The Kirbys called upon me this morning, having suffered nothing on the occasion. I had the good fortune to save the house of my relation, Mr. Mawhood, an eminent woollen draper, in Smithfield, from ruin. He was among the proscribed; and with all his family had secreted themselves in town, having removed the most valuable part of his goods. A party was detached from Holborn bridge on purpose to destroy his house; but by expostulation, entreaty, producing an old Prayer Book, and a gratuity to a man who seemed to be a ringleader, they were diverted from their purpose till some guards arrived, and he has hitherto escaped; but his house at Finchley is said to have suffered severely.* . . . . This will be attended with worse consequences than we are at present aware of; many of the principal Catholics have been so terrified that they talk of disposing of all their property, and leaving the

* These riots took place in London a hundred years ago. At least 50,000 persons from one meeting took their route over London Bridge, bearing flags inscribed, "No Popery," headed by Lord George Gordon. They burnt the furniture, ornaments, and altars of two Roman Catholic Chapels, set fire to the house of the keeper of Newgate, also to the prison, which was soon entered and destroyed, and the prisoners were liberated. The King's Bench prison, and the New Bridewell, together with some adjoining houses, were set on fire and nearly consumed. Attempts were twice made on the Bank of England on the same day. The rioters were repulsed after many of them had fallen by the fire of the military. The total of killed and wounded was 285. Several of the prisoners were afterwards executed. Lord George Gordon was tried for high treason, but acquitted.

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kingdom, which will much impoverish us. Among these is my friend above mentioned, who hopes to have no concern in the kingdom two months hence."

Unhappily, Mr. Brooke's life was brought to a premature close; he fell a victim in the melancholy accident which occurred at the Haymarket Theatre, on the evening of Feb. 3rd, 1794, at which their Majesties had signified their intention of being present at the performance. The fatal catastrophe, by which Mr. Brooke and fifteen other persons lost their lives, was brought about in the following manner:— In the crush which took place, some persons were thrown down and trampled upon by the crowd, who passed over their bodies into the house. The pit to which they were going was lower than the threshold of the door leading into it. Here it was that the mischief happened, for the people who were the unfortunate sufferers either not knowing anything of the steps, or being hurried on by the pressure of the crowd behind, fell down, while those who followed immediately after were, by the same irresistible force, hurried over them. The scene that ensued may be more easily conceived than described; the shouts and screams of the dying and the injured were reported to be fearful, while those who were literally trampling their fellow creatures to death had it not in their power to avoid the mischief they were doing. Seven bodies completely lifeless were carried into the shop of Mr. Wynch, druggist, next door to the theatre, while others were carried to other places, and the remainder to St. Martin's bone house, to be owned. The gentlemen sent to own the bodies of Mr. Brooke and his friend Mr. Pingo, of York, who was with him at the time, said it was the most melancholy office they were ever

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called upon to perform. The countenance of Mr. Brooke had the appearance of sleep, and it was evident that he had been suffocated as he stood, as were many others. The colour on his cheeks remained. Mr. Pingo, who was a more corpulent man, had apparently been thrown down, trampled upon, and much disfigured.

The remains of Mr. Brooke were removed to his apartments in the College, and on February 6th, buried in a vault under the Heralds' pew in the Church of St. Benet, Paul's Wharf, attended not only by the Heralds and his relations, but by the Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal of England; George, Earl of Leicester, President of the Society of Antiquaries; Sir Joseph Banks, Bart., President of the Royal Society; John Topham, Esq., F.R.S. and F.S.A.; Craven Ord, Esq., F.R.S. and F.S.A.; Edmund Turner, F.R.S. and F.S.A.; the Rev. John Brand, Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries; John Cayley, Esq., F.A.S.; James Moore, Esq., F.A.S.; and John Lambert, Esq., F.A.S., who paid this last tribute of regard to this accomplished man.

Edmund Lodge, Esq., to honour the memory of him whom living he loved, placed a mural monument by Ashton over his remains, with the arms * of his family. †

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* "The arms are *Ermine*, on a Bend, *Sable*, a Hawk's Lure, *Or*; the Line and Ring, *Argent*: a Crescent in chief for the difference of a second son. Crest: A Goat's Head erased, *Sable*, horned and bearded, *Or*. The Shield enclosed in a collar of SS, *Argent*. He bore the above arms in his seal, but quartered his mother's with them."—*History of the College of Arms*, Rev. Mark Noble, p. 432.

† In the *Gent's. Mag.*, Vol. 64 (1794), p. 275, appears the following:—"The unfortunate death of Mr. Brooke excites particular regret. His manners were highly amiable; his disposition peculiarly

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The inscription, elegantly expressive of the deceased's merit, is—

"Sacred to the memory of
John Charles Brooke, Esq.,
Somerset Herald,
Secretary to the Earl Marshal of England,
and Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries;
Descended from the respectable family of
Brooke, of Dodworth, in the county of York,
and a person of unrivalled eminence
in his ancient and useful profession.
When we were told that this valuable man,

---

placid and mild, and his whole conduct marked by a willingness to oblige. With an active mind, enriched with general knowledge, and particularly attached to antiquarian researches, he was a valuable member of the Society of Antiquaries, and he made many collections in different parts of the kingdom. The *History of Yorkshire*, his native county, towards which he had (as we have already noticed) contributed a rich accumulation of original collections, was, perhaps, one of the principal objects of his attention; and it is trusted that such progress has been made in that work as to leave little wanting to its completion. The abitities of Mr. Brooke were so peculiarly adapted to an undertaking of this kind that a general interest in its appearance, at a proper period, cannot fail to be excited. In a word, the death of this gentleman has occasioned a loss to his friends, to society, and to literature, which will not easily be repaired or forgotten. Such is the tribute paid to Mr. Brooke by a writer in a Hereford paper immediately after his death. If anything like an History of Yorkshire, fit to meet the public eye, is bequeathed, with his other collections and manuscripts, to the College of Arms, we cannot help expressing our fears that it will remain for ever within the College walls, as the still more voluminous collections of Mr. Torre within those of York Chapter House, or of Dr. Burton with the representatives of Mr. Constable, unless the supposed writer of this character (to whom, if we mistake not, our friend was secretary) exerts his influence to draw it forth."

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to a moral and pious disposition,
united a most cheerful and lively humour:
that with a mind to comprehend, a judgment to select,
and a memory to retain
every sort of useful and agreeable information,
he was blessed with a temper,
calm, unassuming, and inoffensive:
that he lived in a strict intimacy
with persons of the highest rank,
and of the first literary character,
without the smallest tincture of vanity;
above all, that he enjoyed,
with a happy constitution of body,
an uncommon prosperity in worldly affairs;
let us, instead of envying the possession,
reflect on the awful uncertainty,
of these sublunary blessings.
For, alas!
he was in a moment bereaved of them
in the dreadful calamity
which happened at the Theatre in the
Haymarket,
on the 3rd of February, 1794,
in the forty-sixth year of his age."

In the burial register of the Parish Church of St. Benet is the following entry:—

"John Charles Brooke Esq: in the vault under the Heralds' Pew, buried Feb. 6, 1794."

Mr. Brooke's extensive knowledge in heraldry and antiquity, the kind and ready communication of that knowledge to his friends, and the uniform mildness of his

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manners, made his death not only sincerely lamented by his numerous acquaintance, but a great loss to those sciences to the cultivation of which his natural genius was peculiarly adapted.

"I have never known any gentleman," says the Rev. Mark Noble, in his *Lives of the Heralds*, p. 431, "so much and so deservedly beloved, nor anyone's death so deeply deplored. No one could have been more highly esteemed or respected. His elegant and refined manners adorned the drawing-rooms of the great; from him they learnt to know and to appreciate the actions of their illustrious progenitors. To men of science he was equally dear, gracefully giving and patiently receiving information; to his inferiors ever kind and attentive. The author favoured with his friendship never thinks of his death but with the most poignant grief. He may with the utmost truth declare, in the language of the late Mr. Pennant, of this amiable genealogist, 'I find daily reason to deplore his untimely end.'"

Mr. Brooke had acquired a fortune of about £14,000. By his will, which was dated 22nd Nov., 1790, he appointed his two sisters, Jane, wife of Richard Horton Brisco, Esq., and Margaret, afterwards married to Dr. Zouch, his executrixes and residuary legatees. He mentions his great-great-uncle, Mr. Joshua Brooke, whose monument is in Bunhill Fields Burial-ground; his brother, William Brooke, of Wakefield; the five children of his sister Mary Comber, of Wakefield, by her late husband, Thomas Comber, LL.D.; his cousin-german, Lady Wake. Devises Pond House and Lane-head Farms, Dodworth, and Little Pepper Farm, Ashurst, Surrey. A small legacy he left

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which perpetuates his memory in his native township. This was a sum of £50, which he bequeathed to be applied for the benefit of the poor of Dodworth, without signifying in what particular mode it was to be applied; but it was judged the most appropriate to invest the same in the purchase of Three per Cent. Consols, and, as most consonant with the testator's wishes, to apply it in the same way as that of John Brooke, his ancestor, who had left £200 for the benefit of a charity school in Dodworth in 1750.

The early registers of Silkstone, his native parish, were rebound and repaired at the expense of Mr. Brooke in the year 1780, as an entry in them sets forth.

The herald's valuable manuscript collections were bequeathed to the College of Arms, where they now remain.

According to *Gough's British Topography*, vol. ii., p. 400, they consist of the following:—

"No. 1.—A large folio volume of pedigrees, church notes, and extracts from deeds.

"No. 2.—*Domesday Book* for Yorkshire, a fac-simile copy, with the interpretation of the names of places. 4to.

"No. 3.—Copy of the *Nomina Villarum* for Yorkshire. Made Edw. II., 1316.

"No. 4.—Names of manors, with their lords, extracted from the deputations for the preservation of game, lodged in the office of the Clerk of the Peace, from the first of their being registered to the present time.

"No. 5.—An account of Skipton Castle, with a description of the pictures and their inscriptions, and an account and pedigree of the Clifford family. 4to.

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"No. 6.—Extracts of the entries in parish registers of families of note, chiefly in the city of York. 4to.

"No. 7.—Copy of *Bernard's Survey of all the Lands belonging to the Duchy of Lancaster in the County of York.* Made 1577, 19 Eliz.

"No. 8.—Description of the Parish of Keighley, by Miles Gale, the rector.

"No. 9.—*Church Notes in the County of York*, containing a copy of those by Glover, St. George, Dodsworth, and Dugdale, and continued to the present time.

"No. 10.—*Etymologia nominum familiarum et locorum in provincia Maximæ Cæsariensis Summi in agro Eboracensia.* 3 vols., 4to.

"No. 11—21.—*Miscellaneous Collections*, in 11 vols., fol., for the antiquities of the West Riding of Yorkshire; a volume for each Wapentake—viz., Agbridge Ainsty, Barkeston, Claro, Ewcross, Morley, Osgoldcross, Skirack, Staincliffe, Staincross, and Strafford; containing the descent of property, endowments of livings, presentations, church notes, extracts from deeds, etc., alphabetically arranged under the names of places in each Wapentake, with indexes.

"No. 22.—A volume of the like for the North Riding; fol.

"No. 23.—A volume for the East Riding; fol.

"No. 24.—Quarto volume of the like for the North Riding.

"No. 25.—Quarto volume for the East Riding.

"No. 26—37.—Pedigrees of families in the West Riding of Yorkshire, 11 vols. in folio: one for each wapentake as above. Collected from the evidences in the Heralds' College, and continued to the present time.

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"No. 38.—Pedigrees of families in the North Riding.

"No. 39.—Pedigrees of families in the East Riding.

"No. 40.—Collections relating to the town, borough, and parish of Richmond, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, account of schools, hospitals, etc., there.

"No. 41.—Anecdotes and other collections for the lives of eminent men who have flourished in the county of York.

"No. 42.—Drawings and prints relating to the county of York—viz., antiquities, views, monuments, effigies, and arms in windows, etc. ; in portfolios."

The bequest was accompanied by a legacy of £100 to arrange, and £10 to bind these manuscripts. Mr. Brooke left rings to all the members of the college. His books, with those of his fellow sufferer, Mr. Pingo, were sold by Leigh and Sotheby, in 1794. A portrait of Mr. Brooke is honoured with a place in the gallery at Arundel Castle. A quarto plate, by T. Milton, from a painting by T. Maynard, is the frontispiece to Noble's *History of the College of Arms.*

The male line of the family of Brooke became extinct on the death of the elder brother of the Herald, William Brooke, Esq., attorney, of Wakefield and Fieldhead, in 1821, in the 80th year of his age. His daughter, Margaret, who was born at Fieldhead, on the 28th Jan., 1776, lived at Dodworth up to comparatively modern times. She was married at St. John's, Wakefield, on the 20th January, 1809, to Buller Rolle Langford, Esq,, of Wakefield and Dodworth, captain in the army. They had issue only one son, Adolphus, who was drowned whilst skating on the Serpentine, Regent's Park. He was of Trinity College, and in the 21st year of his age at the time of the fatality. Mr. and Mrs. Langford lived many years at Dodworth.

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Mr. Langford died after a long illness, and his will, dated 4th March, 1832, was proved by his widow, in 1835. Mrs. Langford survived nearly 30 years, and died in 1860, at the advanced age of 85 years, at the house of Archdeacon Glover, South Repps, North Walsham, Norfolk, the archdeacon having married a friend, if not a relation of Mrs. Langford's, in the person of Charlotte, second daughter of Sir Robert Affleck, vicar of Silkstone.

Mrs. Langford was well known in the neighbourhood of Barnsley for her peculiarities and eccentricities. She highly revered the memory of her uncle, the Herald, and had many relics which had belonged to him, and of which she was very proud. She was particularly friendly with the late Miss Eleanor Beckett; and both these ladies displayed financial tastes of a very pronounced type. A gentleman who was on friendly terms with them, and had sometimes the honour of joining them at dinner, at the Royal Hotel, as Mrs. Langford's guest, declared that in knowledge of national finance, these two ladies were equal to half a dozen Chancellors of the Exchequer.

Mrs. Langford having survived her son and husband, disposed of a considerable portion of the Brooke estate, at Dodworth, with the proceeds of which she purchased a life annuity; and so great was her desire to possess a large income, that she re-invested her savings for that purpose almost to the close of her life. An amusing story was long current, as to how adroitly she had contrived to dispose of some dilapidated house property, at Dodworth, so as to secure a large life annuity for it. It was judiciously announced, in a quiet way, that the good lady's health had become very precarious, and that she wished to bring her

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worldly affairs into a settled state, and was possessed with a foolish whim to exchange this tumble-down and spacious property for a life rent. Enquiries made by a careful and well-to-do resident satisfied him that the poor invalid was bent on a bad bargain for herself, and a good one for him, so he soon had the business settled on her own terms. Soon after the lady appeared out of doors in renewed health, and survived many years to receive punctual payment of the annuity. The outwitted purchaser did not see the force of the joke when asked how Mrs. L. was; and anyone asking the question had to exercise some caution. Mrs. Langford's only son was buried in Highgate Cemetery, as was also her husband when he died. Some years after, she had the bodies of her son and husband exhumed, and re-interred in a vault in the churchyard of Hoyland. She caused the lead coffins to be taken out of the outer coffins, and disposed of, which disagreeable task, it has always been said, nearly cost the life of the late Mr. John Fletcher, plumber, Barnsley. In character with her decided ways, she had no other inscription than the following initials placed on the tomb there :—

B R L

A L

Son of B R L

Mrs. Langford's remains were interred in the same vault, but there is no inscription to her memory. Although residing in Norfolk, Mrs. Langford continued to make periodical visits to her native district, on which occasions she took up her quarters at the Royal Hotel, Barnsley, then kept by Mrs. Hawksworth. On the latter retiring from that hostelry, Mrs. Langford subscribed £50 towards a fund

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for purchasing her a life annuity. Mrs. Langford published a *Treatise on the Funds and National Finance;* and was also the author of *A Short Discourse on the Evidence in favour of Christianity, from Reason,* a copy of which she presented to the Silkstone parish library. A small volume of sermons, preached at Dodworth Church, and published by the Rev. Samuel Hadfield, in 1847, is dedicated to Mrs. Langford, as a token of the author's gratitude for her humane sympathies, and real kindness in his affliction.

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No. IX.

Joseph Bramah, the Inventor,

WAS born in the township of Stainborough, near Barnsley, on the 2nd of April, 1749, and was baptized, according to an entry in the register of baptisms in the parish church of Slikstone, about six weeks afterwards. The following is the entry :—"1749 : Joseph, son of Joseph Bramma, of Stainbrough, baptized, May 12." He was the second son of Joseph Bramah, or Bramma, as the name was sometimes spelled, and Mary Denton, who were both of Stainborough, and who were married at Silkstone Church, by license, on the 16th September, 1743. They had five children, four of whom appear in the register in the following order :—

"Richard, son of Joseph and Mary Bramah, bap. Dec. 2, 1746."

Joseph, the second son, as above named.

"Thomas, son of Joseph Bramma, Stainbrough, bap. Aug. 25, 1754.

"Hannah, daughter of Joseph Brammah, of Stainbrough, bap. Aug. 29, 1755."

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There was another daughter, Ann, of whom we find no entry.

Joseph Bramah, the father, was servant, coachman it is said, of Lord Strafford—the Lord Strafford who went through and distinguished himself in the Marlborough campaigns, and was a favourite of Queen Anne, and who was afterwards impeached with Bolingbroke, Oxford, and other ministers, on the death of the Queen; after which he settled at Stainborough, which he had purchased of the family of Cutler, and spent much of the remainder of his life in improving his estates. On his death, in 1739, Bramah continued with his son William, the young Lord Strafford, by whom he was held in high regard, and who let him a farm in Stainborough Lanes, about half-a-mile from Wentworth Castle. In 1746, Bramah's name appears for the first time in the rent-roll of Lord Strafford as the occupier of this farm, at a rental of £24 per annum; and in 1768, Ann Bramah, one of his daughters, was living as a servant with the Earl at Wentworth Castle. On this farm the locksmith was born. His parents, who were in moderate circumstances, gave him such an education as qualified him to conduct an agricultural business, and after he left school Joseph began to work about the farm, but at the age of 16 he got hurt with jumping at the annual feast of Bolton-on-Dearne, and an incurable lameness of his right ankle having disqualified him for the active life of a farmer, he was bound apprentice to Thomas Allott, of Stainborough Fold, to be a joiner and cabinet maker. This suited his genius better than agricultural labour, for he was of a mechanical turn of mind, and had, previously to his being apprenticed, evinced a strong natural bias for mechanics, as is obvious from his having been in the

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habit of devoting his entire leisure to various pieces of handiwork, which displayed no small ingenuity.* In proof of which, and of his early perseverance, when a mere boy he commenced and finished the construction of two violoncellos and a violin; one of the former was then purchased at the price of three guineas, and among connoisseurs was long after reckoned to be a very correct intrument, and is still, we believe, in the possession of a person in this district. This circumstance is mentioned to show at how early a period that perseverance manifested itself which became so prominent a trait in his character in after life; for it was prepared by him from a solid block of wood, after the incessant labour of many months, merely with the help of an axe and such edge tools as he contrived to get formed from razor blades by a neighbouring smith, who, it may be worthy of remark, afterwards became useful to him in quality of principal workman at his extensive manufactories in different parts of the metropolis. He also constructed a tea chest and caddy. The tea chest, which was neatly inlaid, consisted of three compartments, and was made of plum-tree wood which had grown in the garden at the farm; and some of these articles remained at the place of his birth, and were shown to visitors so long as the Bramahs remained in possession, which was until comparatively modern times. John Bramah, a nephew of the engineer, died there unmarried on the 23rd February, 1852, at the advanced age of 88 years, while a niece, Elizabeth Bramah, who was a spinster, occupied the farm until her death in 1856, when it went out of the family, and was let to strangers. The relics of the locksmith's early

* *New Monthly Magazine* (1815), vol. iii., p. 209.

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genius, which had been kept together up to this time, were distributed among other descendants of the family, who still reside in the neighbourhood.

When Joseph Bramah's apprenticeship had expired, he resolved to seek work in London, whither he made the journey on foot. He soon found work at a cabinet-maker's, and remained with him for some time, after which he set up in business, in a small way, on his own account. He had not been long in London before he had to mourn the loss of his mother, through an accident on returning from the Barnsley market. She was riding on horseback, down Keresforth Hill, behind John Craney, of Stainborough Inn—for pillions were then in vogue—when she was thrown to the ground, and received such injuries that she died from their effects. We do not know the exact date on which the accident occurred, but we find from the parish register of Silkstone that "Mary, wife of Joseph Bramah, of Stainborough, was buried July 4, 1774." In this manner the locksmith lost his mother when about twenty-five years of age, and when he had fairly made his start in life in London. Soon afterwards Bramah himself met with an accident in the course of his daily work, which incapacitated him for a time, but afforded him a degree of leisure which he at once proceeded to turn to some useful account. "Part of his business at this time," says Mr. Smiles,* "consisted in putting up water-closets, after a method invented or improved by a Mr. Allen; but the article was still very imperfect, and Bramah had long resolved that, if he could only secure some leisure for the purpose,

* *Industrial Biography*, pp. 185-6.

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he would contrive something that should supersede it altogether. This accident afforded him the opportunity he desired. His invention being matured, he took out a patent for his water-closet in 1778, describing himself in the specification as of 'Cross Court, Carnaby Market, Golden Square, Middlesex, cabinet-maker.' He afterwards removed to a shop in Denmark Street, St. Giles's; and while there he made a further improvement in his invention by the addition of a water-cock, which he patented in 1783. The merits of the machine were generally recognised, and before long it came into extensive use, continuing to be employed; and it is in the highest degree creditable to him as a mechanic, and a proof of the simplicity and perfection of this invaluable domestic apparatus that, in spite of a host of pretended improvers upon it, allured by his unprecedented success and consequent patronage, it has continued to be employed with but few alterations until the present day. His circumstances improving with the increased use of his invention, Bramah proceeded to undertake the manufacture of the pumps, pipes, etc., required for its construction, and, remembering his friend, the village blacksmith, who had made his first tools for him out of the old files and razor blades, he sent for him to London to take charge of his blacksmith's department, in which he proved a most useful assistant." Who this useful assistant was we have not been able to make out. The Beardshalls, of Baggerwood, in Stainborough, have been the village blacksmiths for generations, and old Jacky Beardshall is said, by village tradition, to have been the individual who fabricated Bramah's early tools, but we are not aware that he was ever in Bramah's employ in London.

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A George Rich, who was at one time a scholar in Stainborough School, was working for Bramah at Pimlico in 1799, but in what capacity we are not told. Possibly he might be the "smith" alluded to; but he, however, left Bramah, and was in the West Indies in 1807, and New South Wales in 1810. He returned to England, and in his old age lived in Rich Lane, Barnsley. As usual, Bramah's patent was attacked by pirates as soon as it became productive, and he was under the necessity, on more than one occasion, of defending his property in the invention, in which he was completely successful.

We next find Bramah turning his attention to the invention of a lock that should surpass all others then known. The locks then in use were of a very imperfect character, easily picked by dexterous thieves, against whom they afforded little protection. After much study and many experiments he succeeded, and produced a lock which still holds its ground. For a long time, indeed, Bramah's lock was regarded as absolutely inviolable, and it remained unpicked for sixty-seven years, until Hobbs, the American, mastered it in 1851. A notice had long been exhibited in Bramah's shop window, in Piccadilly, offering £200 to anyone who should succeed in picking the patent lock. Many tried, and all failed until Hobbs succeeded, after sixteen days' manipulation of it with various elaborate instruments. But the difficulty with which the lock was picked showed that, for all ordinary purposes, it might be pronounced impregnable. The lock invented by Bramah was patented in 1784. Mr. Bramah himself fully set forth the specific merits of the invention in his *Dissertation on the Construction of Locks*, which he published.

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In an article on the "Bramah Lock," in *Encyclopædia Brit.*, Vol. XIII., p. 533, it is said :—"Mr. Chubb, the well-known lock-maker, has shown us a wooden Chinese lock, which is very superior to the Egyptian, and, in fact, founded on exactly the same principle as the Bramah lock, which long enjoyed the reputation of being the most secure lock ever invented; for it has sliders or tumblers of different lengths, and cannot be opened unless they are all raised to the proper heights, and no higher. Until about eighty years ago we had no lock so good as this in England. Barron's lock, patented in 1778, was the first lock of note. The next lock of any importance was the celebrated lock originally patented, just ten years after Barron's, by the late Mr. Joseph Bramah, who came up to London from Barnsley as a joiner, and raised himself to eminence by the invention of this lock."

After a very careful description of the lock, the writer proceeds :—"This was the construction of the lock for a good many years, and Mr. Bramah pronounced it in that state 'not to be within the range of art to produce a key, or other instrument, by which a lock on this principle can be opened.' It was found, however, long before the defeat of the improved challenge Bramah lock by Mr. Hobbs in 1851, that the inventor had made the common mistake of pronouncing that to be impossible which he only did not see how to do himself. . . . Mr. Hobbs opened the challenge lock with eighteen sliders, or guards, which had hung in Messrs. Bramah's window for many years. He afterwards repeated the operation three times within the hour, in the presence of the arbitrators; and we have seen him open a more recent one, with eight sliders, in four minutes, by means

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of an instrument which is equivalent to a Bramah key with adjustable slits, which are set to the sliders as he goes on feeling them and getting their depths. It has been stated as an advantage of the Bramah lock that an impression cannot be taken from it. This is a great mistake. It may be convenient to observe that when we use the term Bramah lock we mean a lock of that construction; for, the patent having long ago expired, they may be made by anybody, just as Chubb's lock may, though nobody but the representatives of the original patentees have a right to apply the name 'Bramah' or 'Chubb' to them."*

The construction of the lock is more particularly detailed in the specification of the patent (*Repertory of Arts*, vol v., p. 217), as well as in the inventor's *Dissertation on Locks*,

* "At a later period of life, when the term of this patent had expired, having ascertained that the immense expense of the machinery employed in the manufacture of the lock, notwithstanding the very general demand for it, had greatly exceeded the profits derived from its sale, Bramah petitioned Parliament for a renewal of the patent; but the manufacturers of Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and elsewhere, actuated by the sordid principles of gain, opposed it with their utmost efforts, and, unfortunately for him and his family, too successfully."—*Dr. Cullen Brown in New Monthly Magazine*, Vol. III., p. 210.

"It is not easy to say why the application for an Act of Parliament to prolong the privilege proved unsuccessful, unless it was supposed that the inventor had been already sufficiently remunerated for the share of ingenuity which his contrivance exhibited; but the report that one of these locks had been readily opened before a Committee of the House of Commons by means of a common quill, was a gross misrepresentation of the fact; the quill having in reality been previously cut into the required shape from the true key. The experiment, in fact, only served to show the perfection of the workmanship, so little force being required to overcome the resistance when properly applied."—*Encyclopædia Brit.*, *Art. Bramah*, Vol. V., p. 273.

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8vo.; and some additional modifications, allowing the key to be varied at pleasure, are described in a patent dated 1798.

"The merits of the invention being generally admitted," says Mr. Smiles, "there was a considerable demand for the locks, and the necessity thus arose for inventing a series of machine tools to enable them to be manufactured in sufficient quantities to meet the demand. It is probable, indeed, that, but for the contrivance of such tools, the lock could never have come into general use, as the skill of hand-workmen, no matter how experienced, could not have been relied upon for turning out the article with that degree of accuracy and finish in all the parts which was indispensable for its proper action. In conducting the manufacture throughout, Bramah was greatly assisted by Henry Maudslay, his foreman, to whom he was in no small degree indebted for the contrivance of those tool machines which enabled him to carry on the business of lock-making with advantage and profit.* Maudslay was for a long time Bramah's 'right hand man,' and the most difficult and delicate work was entrusted to him; and notwithstanding his youth, he was soon established in the post of head foreman of the works. Maudslay was found especially useful by his master in devising the tools for making his patent locks. In further proof of his manual dexterity, it may be mentioned that he constructed, with his own hands, the identical padlock which so severely tested the powers of Mr. Hobbs, in 1851. And when it is considered that the lock had been made for more than half a century, and

* *Smiles' Industrial Biography*: London, 1863, p. 187.

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did not embody any of the modern improvements, it will, perhaps, be regarded not only as creditable to the principles on which it was constructed, but to the workmanship of its maker that it should so long have withstood the mechanical dexterity to which it was exposed.

"Bramah's indefatigable spirit of invention was only stimulated to fresh efforts by the success of his lock; and in the course of a few years we find him entering upon a more important and original line of action than he had yet ventured on. His patent of 1785 shows the direction of his studies. Watt had invented his steam-engine, which was coming into general use; and the creation of motive power in various other forms became a favourite subject of inquiry with inventors. Bramah's first invention with this object was his Hydrostatic Machine, founded on the doctrine of the equilibrium of pressure in fluids, as exhibited in the well-known 'hydrostatic paradox.' In his patent of 1785, in which he no longer describes himself as 'cabinet maker,' but 'engine maker,' of Piccadilly, he indicated many inventions. For different modifications of pumps and fire-engines, Mr. Bramah took out two successive patents, the two last being dated in 1790 and 1798.* But in the year 1795 he produced and patented the most important of all his inventions—namely, 'The Hydraulic Press,' a machine which gives to a child the strength of a giant, enabling him to bend a bar of iron as if it were wax. In the Museum of the Commissioners, at South Kensington, is deposited what is described, by an inscription upon it, as the 'First Hydraulic Press ever made. Joseph Bramah. Letters

* *Repertory of Arts*, vol. ii., 3.

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Patent, A.D., 1795, March 31. No. 2,045.'" Like all inventions of the first class, it has received little, if any improvement, since it left Bramah's hands. The machine has been employed on many extraordinary occasions, in preference to other methods of employing power. Thus Robert Stephenson used it to hoist the gigantic tubes of the Britannia bridge into their bed, when the weight raised by a single press was 1,144 tons. Brunel also used it to launch the Great Eastern steamship from her cradle; whilst it has also been used to cut bars of iron; to draw the piles driven in forming coffer dams, and to wrench up trees by the roots, all of which feats it accomplishes with comparative ease. After giving an illustrated description of the Bramah Press, *Encyclopædia Brit.*, xii., 178, says :—"The Bramah Press is perhaps the most perfect hydraulic machine with which we are acquainted. It is used in almost every department of industry; for throwing light articles into small bulk; for extracting oil from hides previous to tanning; for pressing cloth; for extracting moisture from paper. It is used in the manufacture of gunpowder, sugar, wax, candles, vermicelli, etc. It is peculiarly adapted for testing the strength of cables and masses of metals; for extracting old piles; uprooting trees; for raising or sustaining a building that has sunk a little; and also for quarrying purposes. The printer and chemist know its value. Besides the immense power thereby procured, the labour of pressing is much lessened. No improvements that have taken place in calendering can exceed the power and facility of the water press; one of these presses is generally wrought by two men, who can, with great ease, work the press so as to produce a pressure of four hundred

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tons; and thereby the appearance and finish of the goods in consequence of such an immense weight acting upon them, are materially improved. Not only this, but the Bramah Press is also used for the purpose of packing, which has increased the method of packing in bales considerably. The bale is commonly packed, roped, etc., while in a compressed state; the dimensions are thereby greatly diminished from what they would otherwise be by any other method; for instance, the same quantity of goods packed in a bale would be one-third less in size than if they were packed in a box."

Bramah's study of the principles of hydraulics, in the course of his invention of the Hydraulic Press, enabled him to introduce many valuable improvements in pumping machinery. By varying the form of the piston and cylinder, he was enabled to obtain a rotary motion, which he advantageously applied to many purposes. Thus he adopted it in the well-known fire engine, the use of which has become almost universal.* Another popular machine of his is the Beer Pump, patented in 1787, by which the publican is enabled to raise from the casks in the cellar beneath, the various liquors sold by him over the counter. He prefaces his specification with some general observations on the right of an inventor to a property, both in the objects which he selects for his improvements, and in the means

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* "1806— £ s. d.
July 19. Carriage of Fire Engines from London .. 6 14 0
Oct. 24. Navigation Freight of Engines, etc. 7 19 0
Nov. 12. Messrs. J. Bramah and Son, in full for Engines, etc. ..... 286 15 0"
Wakefield Constable's Accounts.

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which he employs for the attainment of them; and demands of the public justice, and an ample security for both these rights, grounding this claim on his resolution to make a clear and unreserved disclosure of all his inventions. Besides the method of pumping up the liquors from the various casks through flexible pipes, without the necessity of entering the cellar, he describes a mode of converting every cask into a forcing pump, excluding the air, and raising the liquor to any part of the house, by a load on its head, which is to be converted into a piston. He mentions also a filtering machine, a vent-peg, a method of making pipes, and a new form of stop-cock. He also took out several patents for the improvement of the steam engine, in which, however, Watt left little room for other inventors; and hence Bramah seems to have entertained a grudge against Watt, which broke out fiercely in the evidence given by him in the case of Boulton and Watt *versus* Hornblower and Maberly, tried in December, 1796. On that occasion, Bramah's temper seems to have got the better of his judgment, and he was cut short by the judge in the attempt which he then made to submit the contents of the pamphlet subsequently published by him in the form of a letter, to the judge before whom the case was tried, and entitled, "A Letter to the Right Hon. Sir James Eyre, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, on the subject of the cause, *Boulton and Watt v. Hornblower and Maberly, for Infringement on Mr. Watt's Patent for an Improvement of the Steam Engine*, 1797." "On the expiry of Boulton and Watt's patent," say Mr. Smiles, "Bramah introduced several valuable improvements in the details of the condensing engine, which had by that time

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become an established power; and in the same patent by which he secured this invention in 1801, he also proposed sundry improvements in the boilers, as well as modifications in various parts of the engine, with the object of effecting greater simplicity and directness of action.

"In his patent of 1802, we find Bramah making another great stride in mechanical invention, in his tools 'for producing straight, smooth, and parallel surfaces on wood and other materials requiring truth, in a manner much more expeditious and perfect than can be performed by the use of axes, saws, planes, and other cutting instruments used by hand in the ordinary way.' The specification describes the object of the invention to be the saving of manual labour, the reduction in the cost of production, and the superior character of the work executed. The tools were fixed on frames driven by machinery; some moving in a rotary direction round an upright shaft, some with the shaft horizontal like an ordinary wood turning lathe, while in others the tools were fixed on frames sliding in stationary grooves. A wood planing machine, on a large scale, was constructed on the principle of this invention at Woolwich Arsenal, where it still continues in efficient use. Although the machinery described in the patent was first applied to working on wood, it was equally applicable to working on metals; and in his own shops, at Pimlico, Bramah employed a machine, with revolving cutters, to plane metallic surfaces for his patent locks and other articles. . . . . .

"Bramah's inventive genius displayed itself alike in small things as in great—in a tap wherewith to draw a glass of beer, and in a hydraulic machine capable of tearing up a

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tree by the roots. His powers of contrivance seemed inexhaustible, and were exercised on the most varied subjects. When any difficulty occurred which mechanical ingenuity was calculated to remove, recourse was usually had to Bramah, and he was rarely found at a loss for a contrivance to overcome it.* Thus, when applied to by the Bank of England, in 1806, to construct a machine for more accurately and expeditiously printing the numbers and date lines on bank notes, he at once proceeded to invent the requisite model, which he completed in the course of a month. He subsequently brought it to great perfection—the figures in numerical succession being changed by the action of the machine itself—and it still

* "Mr. Bramah came to state and explain the evils of the accumulated drainage from the upper part of London through Westminster, by Tothill Fields and Millbank, into the Thames. The probable cause of the higher rise of tides within the last three years—namely, the removal of the many tiers of shipping out of the river below the bridge into the new docks (the London, the West India, and the East India Docks), whereby the obstructions to the flowing of the tide being removed, it necessarily flowed higher than formerly. He proposed also certain remedies by new cuts of drainage, etc., all which I referred to Lord Grosvenor, whose estates these drains intersected."—*Diary of Charles Abbot, Lord Colchester*, June 17, 1808.

March 22, 1813: Went to see Bramah's experiment of taking up trees by the roots, in Hyde Park, with an hydraulic engine. The Duke of York and many other persons were present. The machine consisted of an iron cylinder, about four feet long, with a movable piston, which was applied to the side of a tree, and by a small fire engine, containing not more than two gallons of water, a sufficient quantity was forced into the cylinder below the bottom of the piston, to raise it upwards against the trunk of the tree till it forced it out of the ground by the roots. The tackle was not well managed, but when applied the force quickly acted, and the tree was prostrated."—*Ibid.*, vol. ii., p. 442.

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continues in regular use. Its employment in the Bank of England, during the issue of one pound notes, alone saved the labour of 100 clerks; but its chief value consisted in its greater accuracy, the perfect legibility of the figures printed by it, and the greatly improved check which it afforded. An improvement in the processes of making paper, with the assistance of new machinery, in large sheets, was secured to the inventor by a patent in 1805.* The description is accompanied by that of a mode of drying the paper on sliding frames, hung on lines like sashes, and of keeping it in a state of compression by retainers adapted to the hydrostatic press; but Mr. Bramah had not leisure to introduce these arrangements into actual practice, although he had been at considerable expense in preparing the apparatus; but his patent for making paper by machinery, though ingenious, does not seem to have been adopted, the inventions of Fourdrinier and Donkin in this direction having superseded all others."

Mr. Bramah procured a patent in 1809 for a mode of making and holding pens for writing, calculated to save the substance of the quill, by cutting a number of pens out of it, instead of a single one; and those who were not in the habit of making their own pens found a convenience in the portable form in which they were arranged. In 1812 he brought forward his patent for the construction of main pipes, to be carried through the principal streets of the Metropolis, of sufficient thickness to withstand great force, and to which the water within them was intended to be subjected, by proper pumps, furnished with air vessels; so that the water

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Repertory of Arts, Second Series, vol. viii., p. 1.

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might not only be ready for the immediate extinction of fires, without the necessity of bringing an engine to the spot, but might also furnish a convenient moving power for various mechanical purposes, such as raising weights, by means of tubes sliding out of each other like those of a telescope. He observes in his patent that he has frequently had occasion to employ a hydrostatic pressure in many of his operations equivalent to that of a column of water 20,000 feet high, which is about four tons to every square inch. He also asserts that he can form 500 tubes, each five feet long, capable of sliding within each other, and of being extended in a few seconds by the pressure of air forced into them to a length of 2,500 feet, and with a power of this kind he seems to have imagined that he could raise wrecks and regulate the descent of weights of various descriptions.*

His improvements in wheel carriages, for which he obtained a patent in 1814, consisted in fixing each wheel to a separate movable axis, having its bearings at two distinct points of its length, but loosely enclosed between these points in a cylinder filled with oil; and, in some cases, he proposed to fix the opposite wheels to the same axis, though with a power of turning very stiffly round it, in order to lessen the lateral motion of the shafts in very rough roads. He also suggested the use of pneumatic springs, formed by pistons, sliding in cylinders, as a substitute for common springs of metal.

The purpose of Mr. Bramah's last patent was the prevention of the dry rot, by laying on the timber meant to be

* *Encyclopædia Britannica*, vol. v., p. 274.

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preserved from it a thin coat of Parker's Roman Cement, much diluted with water, but he does not appear to have pursued this experiment, having transferred his rights in the invention to other hands.

In some of his inventions, Bramah shot ahead of the mechanical necessities of the times, and hence many of his patents (of which he held at one time more than 20) proved altogether profitless.

Besides his various mechanical pursuits, Bramah also followed, to a certain extent, the profession of a civil engineer, though his more urgent engagements rendered it necessary for him to refuse many advantageous offers of employment in this line. He was, however, led to carry out the new water-works at Norwich, between the years 1790 and 1793, in consequence of his having been called upon to give evidence in a dispute between the Corporation of that city and the lessees, in the course of which he propounded plans which, it was alleged, could not be carried out. To prove that they could be carried out, and that his evidence was correct, he undertook the new works, and executed them with complete success; besides demonstrating in a spirited publication, elicited by the controversy, the insufficiency and incongruity of the plans which had been submitted by the rival engineer.

For some time prior to his death, Bramah had been employed in the erection of several large machines in his works at Pimlico for sawing stones and timber, to which he applied his hydraulic power with great success. New methods of building bridges and canal locks, with a variety of other matters, were in an embryo state in his mind, but he did not live to complete them. The period of his

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labours, unhappily, too soon for the interests of his surviving family and for the good of the country at large, began to draw to a close. That the intensity and duration of his exertions, mental and corporeal together, had in fact greatly abridged the natural span of his existence, and induced premature old age and death, the whole tenour of his life compels us to conclude. The immediate cause of his death, however, appears to have been a severe cold, brought on by over-exertion while superintending the action of his hydrostatic press at Holt Forest, in Hants, where upwards of 300 trees of the largest dimensions were in a very short time torn up by the roots. The cold settled upon his lungs, and his life was suddenly brought to a close on the 9th of December, 1814, in his 66th year.

"With regard to Mr. Bramah's moral character," says Dr. Cullen Brown, in an article on Bramah, in the *New Monthly Magazine* for 1815, p. 212, "it will be found to have been as intrinsically valuable and simple as the mass of his inventions. He possessed a heart which teemed with benevolence, and made him keenly participate in the sufferings of his fellow-creatures. Such a disposition, highly creditable to him as a man, on many occasions retarded the advancement of his fortune; for at various periods of stagnation of trade, by which the labouring classes were reduced to the utmost distress, he was known to retain in his service numbers of his workmen for whom, though he literally had no employment, he always contrived to find something to do, however trivial, as if he conceived he were in duty bound to justify himself in his own opinion for opposing the practice of the rest of the world in such cases. Respecting his

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opinions on the subject of religion, he was of a pious turn of mind, and intimately versed in both the Old and New Testaments, which he considered as being the only infallible exemplars by which the conduct of our life ought to be guided.* He was, however, of a cheerful disposition, and with respect to the religious tenets of others, perfectly liberal and untinctured with the slightest degree of moroseness. Many tracts in manuscript on the subject of religion, which he left in the possession of his family, would, if published, afford a subject of admiration, and be a fresh proof of the astonishing native powers and versatility of his mind. Indeed, at what period of his life, necessarily engaged as he was, he acquired the facility and excellence of English composition which he evinced is a matter of wonder. In his domestic economy he was exemplary in the extreme. To his children he necessarily preached up

* "Notwithstanding his well-known religious character, Bramah seems to have fallen under the grievous displeasure of William Huntington, S.S. (Sinner Saved), described by Macaulay in his youth as 'a worthless, ugly lad, of the name of Hunter,' and in his manhood as 'that remarkable impostor.' It seems that Huntington sought the professional services of Bramah when re-edifying his chapel in 1793; and at the conclusion of the work the engineer generously sent the preacher a cheque for £8, towards defraying the necessary expenses. Whether the sum was less than Huntington expected, or from whatever cause, the S.S. contemptuously flung back the gift, as proceeding from an Arian whose religion was 'unsavoury,' at the same time hurling at the giver a number of texts conveying epithets of an offensive character. Bramah replied to the farrago of nonsense, which he characterised as unmannerly, absurd, and illiterate; 'that it must have been composed when the writer was intoxicated, mad, or under the influence of Lucifer,' and he threatened that unless Huntington apologised for his gratuitous insults, he (Bramah) would surely expose

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the wholesome doctrine of method, without the strict observance of which he alleged that excellence was not to be attained in anything. In his own person he was cleanly almost to fastidiousness, and continually inculcating the same disposition in others. He was temperate in his habits; so cheerful a companion as to be the life of the numerous companies of friends by whom he was equally respected and admired; a respectful and affectionate husband, and tender and anxious father. Unfortunately, Mr. Bramah had an invincible dislike to sitting for his portrait, and there consequently exists no likeness of this distinguished man; for, although a cast of his face was taken after death by Sir Francis Chantrey, this, together with many others, was destroyed by Lady Chantrey after the death of her husband."

The *Gentleman's Magazine* of December, 1814, vol. 84,

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him. The mechanician, nevertheless, proceeded gravely to explain and defend his 'profession of faith,' which was altogether unnecessary. On this Huntington returned to the charge, and directed against the mechanic a fresh volley of Scriptural texts and phraseology, not without humour, if profanity be allowable in controversy, as where he says: 'Poor man! he makes a good patent lock, but cuts a bad figure with the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven!' 'What Mr. Bramah is,' says S.S., 'in respect to his character or conduct in life as a man, a tradesman, a neighbour, a gentleman, a husband, friend, master, or subject, I know not. In all these characters he may shine as a comet for aught I know; but he appears to me to be as far away from any resemblance to a poor penitent or broken-hearted sinner as Jannes, Jambres, or Alexander the coppersmith.' Bramah rejoined by threatening to publish his assailant's letters; but Huntington anticipated him in *A Feeble Dispute with a Wise and Learned Man*, 8vo., London, 1793, in which, whether justly or not, Huntington makes Bramah appear to murder the King's English in the most barbarous manner."—*Smiles's Industrial Biography*, note, p. 196.

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pt. 2, says :—"It is always a most gratifying task to have to place upon record the merits of those who have been in any degree distinguished for their useful talents or moral worth ; but how to draw a just picture of his deserts, whose whole career (whether as regards his public or private actions) has been marked by an overflowing and laudable desire to be useful to his fellow-creatures, we confess ourselves to be at some loss. The name of Mr. Bramah, as an engineer and mechanist, is so well-known to the whole world, as to render it almost a matter of supererogation to offer any comment upon the profound abilities which he has displayed in the line of his profession ; suffice it to say, that the productions of his genius are duly appreciated, and will ever remain a theme for unqualified admiration and unbounded applause while the arts and sciences are patronised and sought after. Intuitive talent in the way of invention and discovery, however, was not the sole distinguishing trait which belonged to Mr. Bramah : he had an acute, comprehensive, and discerning mind, which made him almost immediately master of the most difficult subjects ; and he had a peculiar facility and force of expression, which gave him a vast superiority in all matters under discussion, however diffuse. Thus gifted, his arguments seldom failed to convince ; and his mode of reasoning being always liberal and unsophisticated, served to stamp them with a character of uncommon value. His integrity and love of principle were, perhaps, the strongest features which marked all his actions ; and hence it followed that his society was courted by persons of the highest talent, and all conditions. Of his religious habits we will briefly observe that his practical piety and morality, his

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humanity and active benevolence, will always entitle him to a place in the hearts of good men, who must regard his loss as a public calamity. The deep affliction of his amiable widow and children will of itself speak for him as a husband and a father; and it is at once pleasing and consolatory to know that his death was as easy as his life had been exemplary, and that he sunk into eternity serene and happy, loving and beloved, surrounded by his whole family, and sincerely lamented by a large and respectable circle of friends and acquaintances."

The parish to which Bramah belonged was naturally proud of the distinction he had achieved in the world, and commemorated his life and career by a marble tablet (although he was interred in Paddington Churchyard, where no memorial of him exists), erected, by subscription, to his memory in the Parish Church of Silkstone, on which is the following inscription :—

"This stone
is inscribed to the memory
of Mr. Joseph Bramah,
late of Piccadilly and Pimlico, London,
and formerly of this parish,
who died 9th December, 1814,
in the 66th year of his age.
By rare genius and eminent perseverance,
he advanced himself
to considerable eminence
as an engineer and machinist,
and matured several inventions
of the greatest public utility.
"He was not less remarkable for his benevolent disposition and a steadfast faith in the founder of our holy religion."

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The locksmith, we may state, married Mary, daughter of Francis Lawton, of Mapplewell. It is little we know about her. Her father used to say—and no doubt others of the family echoed the sentiment—that it was a good job that Joseph had met with the accident in his early years, or he would not have been the man he was. She occasionally visited Yorkshire with her husband, and on the last occasion of her doing so she had her arm fractured by the upsetting of a post-chaise almost immediately after starting on her return journey to London, from Mr. Thomas West's, of Cawthorne, where she had been on a visit, and was detained there.

Bramah had five children—four sons and one daughter—Timothy, Francis, Edward, John, and Hannah. On his death, it is stated his works at Pimlico were under the superintendence of his chief draughtsman, Joseph Clement.

The three eldest sons were taken into the business one after the other on leaving school, whilst the youngest son, John, served his time with Mr. Wilkins, M.A., of Caius College, Cambridge, etc., architect of several public buildings at Cambridge, the London University, in Gower Street, National Gallery, etc. He served his full time with him, after which (and some ten years after his father's death) he entered as a student at Christ's College, Cambridge, with a view to ordination, but died whilst a student, about the year 1825. Timothy, the eldest of Bramah's sons, married Anne, daughter and heiress of Thomas West, of Cawthorne,* and through this marriage eventually succeeded to land and

* "1808 3, April. Timothy Bramah, of the parish of St. George's, Hanover Square, London, and Ann West, of this parish, married. [He died, October 21, 1838.] '—*Cawthorne Parish Register.*

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property in that and adjoining townships, some of which is still in the possession of his sons—two of whom are still living (1883), being grandsons of the locksmith—viz., Thomas Joseph Bramah, Esq., of Harley Gardens, South Kensington, and the Rev. Joseph West Bramah, of Davington Priory, Faversham, Kent.

Joseph Bramah, the locksmith's father, lived to a good old age, and was exceedingly proud of his distinguished son. He lived to see him become a man of eminence, and was never more happy than when conversing about his numerous inventions. He died in the year 1800, at his farm, at Stainborough, at the advanced age of 87 years. Bramah's sister, Hannah, lived many years with Sir John St. Aubyn, of Clowance, Cornwall, and spent the closing years of her life at Thomas Allott's, of Stainborough, one of the family with whom her brother, Joseph, had served his apprenticeship, and died there at a good old age. Richard Bramah, the eldest brother of the inventor, was afterwards the chief representative of the family, in the place of his birth, and continued to reside there until the time of his death, in 1820.*

In Silkstone Churchyard the following memorials are to be seen of the family :—

" Here lieth the body of Joseph Bramah, of Stainborough, who departed this life, Jan. 23, 1800, aged 87 years.

Also, Mary, his wife, who departed this life, July 2, 1774, aged 64 years.

Richard Bramah, son of the above, died July 27, 1820, aged 73 years.

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* "Jan. 31, 1775. Richard Bramah, of this parish, and Mary Pearson, of Monk Bretton, married."—*Silkstone Parish Register.*

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Mary, his wife, died 1829.
Susannah, their daughter, died 1823, aged 36 years.
Sarah, do. 1820, do. 25 do.
Frances, do. 1821, do. 23 do."

Lord Strafford always took great interest in the success of Bramah, the son of his old servant and tenant, and patronised him on various occasions, not only in the purchasing of his locks, but other matters. On his patenting the fire engine, his lordship gave an order for one, and had inscribed upon it, "Earl of Strafford, Wentworth Castle, 1791." This engine is still to be seen at Stainborough, and would appear to have been most substantially made, for, although nearly a century old, it has recently been repaired, and is in good working order. At the farm, at Stainborough, there was formerly a picture of the Bramah fire engine (which is now in the possession of Mr. J. Askham, of Barnsley), on which is the following:—"A view of the patent fire engine, invented by Joseph Bramah, engine maker, Piccadilly, near Hyde Park corner, London, inventor of the original patent water closets, which act with valves, so much esteemed for their superior utility; and also of the patent locks, without wards, which cannot possibly be picked or opened by false keys, etc. Likewise, the inventor of the patent rotary pump, which raises water to any given height, with a constant uniform stream, without cylinder, piston, or air vessel; also the patent cocks, for brewers, distillers, etc., on a principle free from all imperfections, and can be made to open and shut water ways of very large dimensions with perfect ease and conveniency, and at an expense which bears no proportion to those on the usual principle."

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We may state that Bramah's works, in Belgrave Place, Pimlico, were described, in 1817, by a home tourist, as "the manufactory of the ingenious Bramah, whose locks baffle knavery, and whose condensing engines promise such important results to philosophy and the mechanic arts." These works, which were 180 feet in length, and amongst the most unique in Europe, were the scene of a most destructive fire in November, 1843, when in less than half-an-hour the whole of the building was in flames, the damage done being very great.

It is also deserving of record that the house in Belgrave Place, South Pimlico, in which the engineer lived and died, and the large factory behind it, which had been carried on by his descendants until comparatively modern times, were lately levelled to the ground for the purpose of improvements on the Marquis of Westminster's estate.

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No X.

Sir William and Lady Mary Armyne.

LADY MARY ARMYNE, so distinguished for her piety and charity, was one of the two daughters of Henry Talbot, a younger brother of Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury. Her family for some time resided at Monk Bretton Priory, a suitable residence having been prepared out of the buildings of the suppressed Priory. Johnston adds that there was an addition to the buildings of a large staircase and gallery made by the Earl. To Lady Mary the poor of the district owe the erection and endowment of the almshouses near the ruins of the Priory, for six poor widows; while other parts of the country have also felt the benefit of her charities.*

* "Among the benefactors of this period may be honourably distinguished the Lady Mary Armyne. She was a granddaughter of the 6th Earl of Shrewsbury, and a friend of Richard Baxter. As patroness of Rothwell, once forming part of Nostel Priory, she founded almshouses at Monk Bretton, and left a rent charge of £44, for 99 years, to be employed in the counties of Derby, Huntingdon, and York. Of this charity, the Rev. Richard Stretton, of Leeds, afterwards minister of Haberdashers' Hall, London, was the administrator,

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LADY MARY ARMYNE

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The first connection between the Earls of Shrewsbury and Monk Bretton came about in 1578, when George, the sixth Earl, purchased of Jasper Blythman, of New Laithes, the site of the Abbey, with the buildings thereon, and about 100 acres of land. This the Earl settled upon his fourth son, Henry Talbot, on his marriage with a daughter of Sir William Rayner.* The youthful pair came to reside

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and Thoresby, the Yorkshire correspondent."—*Congregationalism in Yorkshire*, p. 97.

Thoresby, in his Diary, June 13, 1695, says: "Afternoon with Mr. H.; paying Lady Armyne's gift." A note adds, "The money which Thoresby was employed in distributing was probably part of a rent charge of £40, for 99 years, which she directed to be appropriated to charitable purposes."

In Hunter's *Life of Oliver Heywood*, p. 392, is the following allusion to this benefaction: "Lady Mary Armyne, a daughter of Henry Talbot, brother of Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, a religious and benevolent lady, had bequeathed certain sums of money to be distributed among poor ministers, in the counties of Huntingdon, Derby, and York, where her estates lay. Mr. Stretton had the chief management of the distribution, and the money for Yorkshire passed through the hands of his friend, Ralph Thoresby, of Leeds, and Thoresby employed the Rev. Oliver Heywood to make the distribution."

"*Armyne Lady Mary*, the wife of Sir William Armyne, was the daughter of Henry Talbot, the fourth son of George, Earl of Shrewsbury. She was celebrated for the extent of her theological and historical knowledge, for her liberality to the poor, and for her patronage of North American Missions. She endowed several hospitals, and died in 1674. T.J."—*Imperial Dictionary of Biography*.

* In West's *Smyboleography* it is stated that a bill in Chancery was filed by Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, against Sir Wm. Raynor, of Overton Longvile, for £1,000 remaining due of £4,000 which he had promised as a marriage portion with his daughter, whom Henry Talbot had taken to wife. The Earl had settled lands to a large amount on his son, out of which the lady had a right of dower.

Sir Wm. Rayner, of Overton Longvile. Will dated 27th Oct., 1606,

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here, but their residence, so far as Henry Talbot was concerned, was a comparatively brief one, for he died in 1595, at the early age of 33 years, leaving a widow and two daughters.

Henry Talbot's widow married, for her second husband, Thomas Holcroft, Esq. One of the two daughters married Robert Pierrepont, Earl of Kingston, and the other Sir William Armyne, of Osgodby, Bart. In the partition of the estates of Henry Talbot, Burton Priory became the property of Lady Armyne (who was only an infant at the time of her father's death), while the site and possessions of the Priory of St. John's at Pontefract appear to have been a portion of the estate of the Duchess of Kingston.*

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left lands, etc. at Burton, *alias* Bretton, *alias* Burton Monastery to his daughter, dame Elizabeth Holcroft, and the heirs male and female of her body; in default to his grandchild Mary Talbot and the heirs male of her body; and in default to the right heirs of Henry Talbot, now deceased, late husband to my said daughter; in default to my nephew, Wm. Rayner; in default to Gertrude Pierrepont.

* "When the great Property in this part of the Kingdom which was collected in the house of Talbot became dispersed, the rectory of Cantley passed to the co-heirs of Henry Talbot, a younger son of Earl George. Lady Armyne, one of the daughters of Henry Talbot, presented to the living once. She had no issue. The next presentation was by the Lady Grace Pierrepont, a granddaughter of Gertrude, the other daughter and co-heir of Henry Talbot, and heiress of Henry, Marquess of Dorchester. She died in 1703."—*South Yorkshire*, vol. 1, p. 83.

On the north side of the Church of Holme Pierrepoint is a monument to Lady Armyne's sister, upon which is inscribed—

"Here lyeth the illustrious Princess Gertrude, Countess of Kingston, daughter to Henry Talbot, Esq., son to George, late Earl of Shrewsbury. She was married to the most noble and excellent Lord Robert, Earl of Kingston, one of the generals to King Charles the First, in the late unhappy differences, who in that service lost his life. She had by

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Ruins of Monk Bretton Priory, in 1840.

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Lady Mary Armyne stood out amongst the foremost women of the age in which she lived, and in an old and scarce book —*The Lives of Sundry Eminent Persons in this later age*, by the Rev. Samuel Clark, Published in 1683—we find a portrait, and an interesting memoir of her, from which we extract the following :—

"This honourable and excellent lady was a branch of one of the most ancient, noble, and illustrious families in England, whether we look to descent, degree, or actions. The family of the Talbots, for a long tract of time, Earls of Shrewsbury, whose heroic performances, both in civil and military affairs, done by them in their native country, are upon record to the perpetuating of their names and renown.

. . . . As to her beauty, it was more considerable, even unto old age, than in most of her date in the world, by which we may judge what it was in the spring of her life. And,

"That virtue is of greater grace,
That shineth through a beauteous face.

"She was of a lively and active spirit; and herein she was

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him many children, most dead. There are living, Henry, Marquess of Dorchester; Wm. and Gervase Pierrepont, Esquires; and one daughter, the Lady Elizabeth Pierrepont. She was a lady replete with all qualities that adorn her sex; and more eminent in them than in the greatness of her birth. She was most devout in her duties to God; most observant in these to her neighbour; an incomparable wife; a most indulgent mother; and most charitable to those in want. In a word, her life was one continued act of virtue: she has left a memory which will never die; and an example that may be imitated, but not easily equalled. She died in the 61st year of her age, A.D. 1649, and this monument was erected to her by her son, Gervase Pierrepont."—*Thoroton's Notts*, vol. I, p. 180.

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above ordinary; for even to the close of her days, she was very active and stirring; able to walk with agility and continuance, without help of hand or staff. As to her natural parts she was quick, vivacious, and comprehensive in judging of things, even to the last hour of her life. Tho' she was considerably above fourscore years old, yet could she discourse as rationally, the very day she died, as others can in the very flourish of their age and life. She had attained to a great skill and dexterity in the knowledge of all those things which belonged to her sex, degree, and place, which were very numerous, and therefore required such attainments as she had in a high measure arrived at.

"She was not without some competent skill in more languages than her native tongue; particularly in the French and Latin.

"She was considerably skilled in divinity and history. In divinity, not only knowing practical things, but was very intelligent in matters national and polemical or controversial. In history she was well versed, not only in the Jewish and Roman histories; but especially in the historical part of the sacred scriptures, and ecclesiastical affairs.

"She was one who well understood how to manage her affairs and concerns—whether at a distance or near at hand—to the best advantage, to the last of her days, and that without so much as small miscarriages.

"She was of a very obliging deportment and carriage to the utmost date of her life. In this she was a critic; few could excel or go beyond her. With her humble and courteous carriage and speeches, she obliged all with whom she conversed or had to do. For, as she was the owner of an active body, so of pertinent and pleasing speech; and

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this she used to employ in the entertainment of her family and visitors, both in health and sickness. . . . . This honourable lady was of a holy and exemplary life. She used to affirm that a holy life, and graces of the gospel, did far excel, and were more dignifying than birth, estate, and than all the great and shining titles which the world could bestow. Through God's goodness this pious and excellent lady was not like a fair house with an ill inhabitant, but had a noble soul, which dignified all her other excellencies. These and many other things raised her to a high pitch of greatness, yet none did so much honour and beautify her as her religion. And that which made it the more orient and splendid, was its regularity, universality, and perseverance.

"She loved holiness, not only in those of her family (choosing her servants by this standard), but also in strangers, which was a good evidence that she loved it for its own sake. She endeavoured to promote and advance religion in others, not only by counsel, conference, admonition, exhortation, etc., but also by many gracious letters, written with her own hands. She used to give good books to some, and money to others, to draw on and encourage them in their progress towards the kingdom of heaven. She gave large yearly contributions to promote the carrying on of the work begun in New England for the conversion of the poor Indians in those parts, and this she continued, even to her dying day; and of the success of that undertaking she had an annual account, to her rejoicing.

"When that fatal Bartholomew Day came, wherein so many hundreds of godly, able and painful ministers were ejected, to the undoing of themselves, their wives, and children, and

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all other ways being prohibited whereby they might get a subsistence, out of sympathy, and commiseration of their sad and deplorable condition, some few days after she came to Mr. Edmund Calamy, and brought him five hundred pounds (at which time I also was with him), to be distributed amongst the most indigent and necessitous familes of them.

"She did highly reverence and esteem godly ministers; yea, she had great respect to such of them as were of the lower form, and of meaner gifts, if she observed them to be serious and industrious. She demeaned herself with very much gravity and humility in God's house of prayer, and never mentioned the names of God or of Christ but with a reverential awe upon her spirit.

"She was frequent and constant in giving to charitable uses. She in her life time erected and endowed some alms houses in three several counties; and upon special occasions gave away many large sums of money upon charitable accounts. She was not weary in well doing whilst she lived, and at her death left forty pounds per annum for four score and nineteen years for the like uses.

"A learned and experienced minister, who lived not far from her, was sometimes with her. The occasion of his going and his business with her, cannot be better expressed than in his own words, which I will therefore here set down.

"'Though (saith he) I was seldom with her myself, yet these fifteen years I lived so near unto her, as that I might easily have heard the noise of fame, if she had laid under any manner of scandal; but such was her holy and blameless life, that obtrectation itself durst not so much as nibble at it.

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"'That little converse I had with her gave me opportunity to know her more intimately than many that did but hear her blameless and pious conversation. For her business with me was no other than to open the state of her soul, and to confess her infirmities, and to produce her evidence for heaven, and to desire my judgment, together with my counsel for her further strength and comfort; and to ask my advice concerning such works of public good, which she charitably intended, and did afterwards liberally perform. . . . . After this, those about her had some hopes of her recovery, but she, hearing of Mr. Baxter's troubles, sent her servant to him to hear of his case, before whose return to her she was dead.

"'Though she sprang from an ancient and honourable family, inclined to the Romish sect, yet God was her teacher, and did confirm her, not only in the Protestant religion, but also in the true love of practice and seriousness in that religion which she professed. Though according to her rank, she lived in the decency of a plentiful estate, it was accompanied with humility and lowliness of mind. Her prudence, sobriety, and gravity were very exemplary; and her impartiality in loving all that were truly Christians was signal. Yet she much disliked their divisions and contentious wranglings. She took it to be no countenancing of schism (as some do) to relieve such servants of Christ in their distress, as men accuse and afflict as schismaticks, though she was an adversary to schism. When she first heard of above eighteen hundred ministers ejected and silenced, *Anno Christi* 1662, and deprived of all ways and means of subsistence for themselves and families, she gave freely a considerable sum of money towards the relieving of

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the most necessitous of them (as I have stated before), and the good works which she did before her death, we hope, will live, and declare themselves, and be an encouragement to others, that are entrusted by God with riches, to follow her example, and not to make themselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness.'"

The Monk Bretton almshouses were founded in 1654. On a tablet surmounted by the arms of Lady Mary, is the following inscription :—

"Dame Mary Talbot, widow to Sir William Armyne, baronet, 2nd daughter and co-heire of Henry Talbot, son of the illustrious George Talbot, Earle of Shrewsbury, and Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir William Rayner, of Overton Longvile, in the county of Huntingdon, Knt., who out of her pious charitie hath erected this house for the relief and comfort of six poore widowes of this parish of Burton, with allowance of forty shillings and a gowne every year.

Anno Domini
1654.
Soli Laus Dei." *

These almshouses consist of six cottages, occupied by six poor widows, each of whom receives 40s. a year (which forms a rent charge upon the estate), and ten shillings a year in lieu of a gown. Lady Mary Armyne died in 1675,

* "August 10, 1681. Copied an inscription upon an hospital of the virtuous Lady Armyne at Burton Grange.

"May 30th, 1684. Passed by Burton Grange, where is an hospital founded (with two others in different counties) by the religious and charitable Lady Mary Armyne."—*Diary of Ralph Thoresby*, vol. i. p. 97.

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at the advanced age of upwards of 80 years, having bequeathed Burton Grange estate to Sir Gervase Pierrepont, the fourth son of her sister, the Countess of Kingston Lady Mary was the second wife of Sir William Armyne; his first wife being Elizabeth, only daughter of Sir Michael Hickes, Knt., by whom he had issue a son, Sir William Armyne, his successor, and at least two daughters. One of these, it will be seen from the subjoined note, married Sir Henry Bellasis, K.B. Susanna *—for that was her name—is said to have intrigued with the Duke of York. She was a person of very high connections, and was created in 1674, Baroness Bellasis, of Osgodby, for life. On some question being raised as to the legality of the birth of the son of James II., Lady Bellasis was one of the witnesses called to depose to the fact, along with the Queen Dowager and others.†

* "Sir Henry Bellasis having made some waste in his estate, his father, my Lord Bellasis, advised him of thinking to repair it by getting a rich wife, he having now continued a young widower three years. This counsel and his circumstances made him marry a young lady, daughter to my Lady Armyne, worth £1,000 per annum; but his inclinations were so extremely set on another lady, Miss Gertrude Pierrepont (her cousin), that he could never remove them from thence all the time that he lived, though he married the other, and used to say that since he could not marry her nobody else should; for he could not think of any man enjoying her but himself."—*Memoirs of Sir John Reresby*, p. 60.

"Susanna, daughter and co-heiress of Sir William Armyne, of Osgodby, Bart. She married Sir Henry Bellasis, K.B., eldest son of John, Lord Bellasis, who was killed during his father's lifetime. She is said to have intrigued with James II., who created her in consequence, in 1674, Baroness Bellasis, of Osgodby, for life. She subsequently married — Fortrey, of Chequers, Esq., whom she survived. She died March 6, 1713."—*The Ellis Correspondence*, vol. ii., p. 257.

† After the death of the Duchess of York, the Duke in the following year, 1673, began to look out for another wife. Lady Bellasis, Sir William Armyne's daughter, being now a widow, the Duke made his

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In the "Character of Sir Wm. Armyne, Bart., by Christopher Shute, B. D., given in Memorials and Characters, together with the lives of divers eminent and worthy persons, 1741," it is said that he was an affable, friendly, and obliging gentleman, winning and gaining upon all that came near him. He died in January, 1657, and was buried on the 18th of the same month in the church of Lenton, in Lincolnshire. His funeral sermon was preached and dedicated to Sir Michael Armyne, Bart., his brother, and printed in London in 1658.

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addresses to her. Burnet tells us that she so much gained on the Duke of York that he gave her a promise under his hand to marry her. The King heard of this engagement, and "sent for the Duke, and told him it was too much; that he had played the fool once; that was not to be done a second time, and at such an age. The lady was also so threatened that she gave up the promise, but kept an attested copy of it, as she herself told me."—*Bishop Burnet, in "History of his Own Times."*

The Earl of Kimberley, writing to the *Times* in January, 1880, referring to the statement of Bishop Burnet, that Lady Bellasis had kept a copy of the promise of the Duke of York (James II.) to marry her says:—"A gentleman, now dead, long solicitor to my family, told me that this copy was in the possession of my great grandfather, the first Lord Wodehouse, and that he had frequently seen it. It has since disappeared, and is believed to have been burnt with other papers of interest. The patent creating her a peeress is in my possession. She was daughter and co-heiress of Sir William Armyne. Her other sister married Sir Thomas Wodehouse, from whom I am descended."

As a reward, Lady Bellasis received a peerage for life, and from the above letter it would seem clear that she also received a handsome pecuniary reward.

It would also seem as if, despite the ill-favour of her father-in-law, whom, Burnet tells us, reported her engagement with the Duke to the King, she was received into great favour at the Court of King James, for, in the correspondence of the Princess Anne of Denmark (July 24,

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There is the following notice of Sir William in Noble's *Lives of the English Regicides*, p. 67 :—" Sir William Armyne was created a Baronet by King James I., Nov. 28th, 1619, in the lifetime of his father, Sir William Armyne, of Osgodby, knight. He early declared for the cause of Parliament,' who placed the greatest confidence in him, naming him one of their Commissioners to attend the King when his Majesty went towards the Scots; but his real office was that of a spy upon the actions of his sovereign, whilst the

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1688), we find in answer to one of the queries of the Princess of Orange, it mentioned "that among the women that were present at the birth of the Prince of Wales (June 10, 1688) were Lady Peterborough, Lady Bellasis, Lady Arran, etc., etc.; all these stood as near as they could." Lady Bellasis assisting the midwife. There were some in those times who, probably, if they had known all, or even as much as Bishop Burnet did, would have said that she might safely have been trusted in by the King.

The following account of an affair in which Sir Henry Bellasis was mixed up is abridged from the *Mercurius Publicus* of the day (Feb., 1661-2):—Charles Lord Buckhurst, Edward Sackville, Esq., his brother; Sir Henry Belasyses, K.B., eldest son of Lord Belasyses; John Belasyses, brother to Lord Fauconberg; and Thomas Wentworth, Esq., only son of Sir George Wentworth, whilst in pursuit of thieves near Waltham Cross, mortally wounded an innocent tanner named Hoppy, whom they had endeavoured to secure, suspecting him to have been one of the robbers; and as they took away the money found on his person, under the idea that it was stolen property, they were soon after apprehended on the charge of robbery and murder, but the grand jury found a bill for manslaughter only. They were acquitted."—*Pepy's Diary*, vol. i. p. 328.

Sir Henry was, however, killed in a duel with a Groom of the Chamber to Charles II., in 1667, when Lady Bellasis was left a widow. The time of her ladyship's birth seems uncertain, but she lived to a good old age, and she seems in part to have verified the prophecy of her medical men, as Dr. Fraser quoted from a letter of Dean Swift's to Mrs. Dingley, referring to her death late in the reign of Queen Anne.

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royal army lay before Newark in 1645; and upon the news of Lord Fairfax having been defeated in the north, the Parliament in great fear sent him, with Sir Henry Vane, junior, and two others, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Nye, puritan divines, to desire that the brethren of Scotland would instantly come to their assistance. It was an office the Earl of Rutland avoided sharing, by pleading indisposition, and Lord Grey of Wark resolutely declined, though he was imprisoned in the Tower for his disobedience to their mandate.

Sir William Armyne also assisted at some of the conferences for peace as one of the Parliament Commissioners; he was appointed, with others, in 1646, to receive the king at Holdenby, but this he declined. He was also named one of the Committee for the parts about Kesteven, the South-west division of Lincolnshire.*

Obedient as he had been to the Parliament, and though he had taken the Protestation, yet he avoided committing himself in the king's death, never attending any of the sittings in the High Court of Justice, though named one of the judges. This, however, did not make him forfeit the good opinion of the usurping powers, who knew his consequence with all around him, and his sincere aversion to the

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* "Parliament solicited a Commission of each house to attend the King to Scotland. The King declined to grant such Commission, but gave the members appointed leave to attend upon him. Accordingly, Lord Howard, of Escrick, from the Lords, and Hampden, Fiennes, Sir Philip Stapleton, and Sir William Armyne, from the Commons, followed the King into Scotland, and kept up a correspondence with the Parliament during the greater part of his stay there.—10th Aug. 1641."—*Verney Papers*, p. 116.

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royal cause. For these reasons he was elected a member of the Council of State in the years 1649-50 and 1651. By Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Michael Hickes, of Beverton, in Co. of Gloucester, Knt., he had Colonel William Armyne, a Parliament officer, and equally averse to the royal cause as his father; he succeeded to the title, but leaving only daughters, it became extinct."

Sir William Armyne would appear at one time to have had possession of the Coucher Book of Monk Bretton Priory, as will be seen from the following curious record from Mr. Le Neve's collections :—"Sir Francis Wortley, Bart., and Sir William Armyne, Knt. and Bart., were called upon to deliver up the books of the monastery in a public office of record, where every man might have free access to come unto them at their liberties and pleasure, which said books are conceyved meerely and properly to be the king's records and evidences, and not of anie private subjects, of what estate or condition soever. These are, therefore, to will and require you to deliver unto the said John Rawson such Coucher book or books of the said monasteries and abbies aforesaid as shall remayne in your custodyes betwixt this and the feast of the birth of our Lord God next coming, to remayne in the said house of evidences amongst the rest of his Majestie's records, as well for the use and benefitt of his Majestie as of his subjects, as occasion shall require. Hereof fail not, as you will answer the contrarie at your perills, and that you and every of you respectively take notice of this our current warrant being shown unto you and a true coppie thereof being left with you.—From Fullam House, the 28th day of July, 1627."

In a note in Dodsworth's MSS. it is stated that Sir

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William Armyne hath this book, and that Sir Francis Burdet, of Birthwaite, has transcribed some charters therefrom.* The following is inserted in it :—"In this book are noted or transcribed all the charters of feoffments, confirmations, and quit claymes of whatsoever condition, which belong, or by any title may belong, to the house of St. Mary Magdalen, of Bretton, and to the prior and convent of the same place, of St. Benet's order, of the diocese of York, there serving God." This is now among the Lansdowne MSS. in the British Museum, and has at the end the following :—

"10 small pages.
90 greater pages.
May 6, 1633. W. ARMYNE."

On the opposite leaf in pencil is—"In 1704, Peter le Neve saw this MSS. in the hands of the heir of Millington, bookseller, of London." (*See MS. Harl.*, 4757, p. 98). At the beginning of the MS. is the following : In 1633 this MS. belonged to Sir William Armyne, knt. ; it was sold in 1709 to Walter Clavel, Esq., and at his auction was sold to James Wert, Esq., the present owner, 1763.

The Burton Grange estate remained in the family until

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* Sir Francis Burdet, who lived at Birthwaite Hall in the early part of the 17th century, would, appear to have had antiquarian tastes. In the Lansdowne MSS. in the British Museum, are many pages of notes in manuscript by Sir Francis. There is little that is now valuable in these notes, but they show Burdet to have been a reader of charters and chartularies, amongst others, Nostel, Pontefract, and Monk Bretton.

Dodsworth says that old Mr. Rockley, of Rockley, had a hand in the compilation of *Vincent's Discovery of Errors*, which is given in the first edition of the Catalogue of Nobility, published by Ralph Brooke, York Herald, in 1619. At this early period we appear to have had men of taste and learning in the district around Barnsley.

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1785, when the site of the monastery, with the estate attached, was bought by the guardians of Sir George Wombwell for upwards of £30,000. When Lady Armyne came to Burton Grange she was accompanied by a family of gentry named Milner, ancestors of the Milners of Meersbrook and Thurlstone, and there they resided for many generations, and were much connected with the early affairs of the district. They were previously of Heclocton, in the county of Nottingham, of which place George Milner married a sister of Sir William Rayner, of Overton-Longvile, whose daughter Henry Talbot married.

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No. XI.

Robert Holgate, Archbishop of York.

IN the short notices published of this distinguished prelate, it has always been stated that he was a native of Hemsworth, and that he was born about the year 1500. That he was a native of Hemsworth there is little doubt, and a house in the village, which tradition pointed to as the house in which he was born—a very poor one—was pulled down about the year 1808; but it is remarkable that so little should have come down to us respecting one that attained such eminence, and conferred such great benefits upon the district. Of his early life and connections very little is known beyond the fact that he was of good family and brought up a monk. We know that Holgates were living at Stapleton, South Kirkby, Clayton-cum-Frickley, Grimethorpe, and Brierley, all in the immediate district of Hemsworth, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; and that they were of the same family there is little reason to doubt. Henry Holgate, a brother of the prelate, was of Clayton, and Thomas, a son

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of this Henry, was, on the inquisition taken at the Archbishop's death, declared to be his next heir. Hopkinson, in his *Genealogical Collections*, gives a pedigree of the family of Holgate of Stapleton, in which Robert, the prelate, occurs as third son of Thomas Holgate, by Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Champernowne. The eldest brother of the Archbishop, according to this authority, was John, who married Annabella, daughter of Richard Beaumont, of Whitley; the next brother, Edward, would appear to have been unmarried, while the one sister which is given, married Thomas Nettleton, of Thornhill. John Holgate had a son Henry, who married a Jackson of Snydale, and had a son, Thomas (described as of Stapleton), who married Catherine, daughter of Bartholomew Trigott, of South Kirkby. A Robert Holgate, of South Kirkby—and this place is not more than two miles from Hemsworth—made his will on the 2nd December, 1523, and left his body to be buried in the bell-house of the Church at South Kirkby. He mentions his sons, Christopher and William, and leaves to his niece Jennett Holgate (daughter of the said Christopher), 3s. 4d. He gives to his son John, all his goods, and makes him executor, and he is "to find Margaret, my wief, one farme-hold, and honestly mete and drynk for her lief." *

A Thomas Holgate was Mayor of Pontefract in 1553; and in 1619, a William Holgate, of Pontefract, gent., made his will, giving his soul to God, and his body to be buried in the Parish Church of All Hallows, in Pontefract. †

There was a George Holgate of Stapleton in the time of

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* *Dodsworth's MSS.* 99, fol. 187b.

† *Boothroyd's Pontefract*, pp. 358, 453.

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James I. A George Holgate of Brierley was assessed to the amount of £2 under that township in the Subsidy Roll of 1663; and at the time of Dugdale's Visitation, in 1665, this George Holgate was returned as being contumacious, that is for not having appeared before the Herald to register his arms and pedigree,* and a little later George Holgate, and Anne, his wife, Robert Holgate, and Anne and Mary Holgate, the two latter being described as spinsters, and all of Brierley, were charged with being recusants, and with not attending Church, and punished accordingly. The family of Morris, of North Elmsall, was connected with that of Holgate by marriage. Matthias Morris of North Elmsall was married twice; by his first wife he had, among other children, John Morris, who was governor of Pontefract Castle in 1648; and to his second wife, Jane, daughter of George Holgate, of Grimethorpe, he had Matthias, Wentworth, Richard, and Sarah. A John Holgate, who would no doubt belong to Grimethorpe, married "Helin Seaton, on 3rd December, 1666."

A family bearing the same name, and claiming a descent from, or a relationship to Holgate, is now living in Lincolnshire, several members thereof having been during the last 150 years, English clergymen.

With regard to the prelate's age—that he was born about the year 1500, as has been invariably stated, is an error, as shown by the articles and petition he submitted to the Queen in 1555, wherein he gives his age at 68, which makes the year of his birth 1487. He would therefore be older than has generally been supposed. Another point on

* See *Dugdale's Visitation, (Surtees Soc. Pub).*, vol. xv.

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which there has always been great mystery, has been his death and burial. The popular tradition has always been, that on his fall the prelate retired to Hemsworth, and that there, after living a short time in retirement, he died, and was buried, and a large white marble slab, without inscription, found imbedded under the altar table in Hemsworth Church many years since, during some alterations, was believed to have covered his remains. But the fact is he died—and it is to a MS. note of Mr. Hunter's, that we are indebted for this information—in London, in the parish of St. Sepulchre, on the 15th November, 1555, as will shortly be seen, and no doubt he would, according to his wish, be buried in the parish in which he died.

Of Holgate's early life little is known. He became, we are told, a Canon of the order of St. Gilbert of Sempringham, in Lincolnshire, and was probably educated in the house of that Order, within the University of Cambridge, though it has been said he was of St. John's College. He at one time held the benefice of Cadney, in Lincolnshire, where Sir Francis Ayscough, one of his parishioners, proved very troublesome to him, by commencing a vexatious lawsuit against him, which caused him to quit his living and go to London.* He there found means to be introduced to

* There is a story told by Sir John Harrington, of Holgate, when Lord President of the Council, which, if true, shows him to have been of a more forgiving temper than his predecessor, Wolsey, in a case somewhat parallel. "Sir Francis Ayscough, the knight before mentioned, who had given Holgate trouble, and been the means of his resigning his benefice at Cadney, happened to have a suit depending in that court. Doubting much of hard measure from the Lord President, whose adversary he had been, he gave up his cause for lost. Contrary, however, to his expectations, he found Holgate, according to justice, to stand up in

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court; and "as he was a man of merit according to the taste of those times," he was made one of the King's chaplains.* He was constituted one of the preachers to the University in 1524, and was afterwards made Master of the Order of Sempringham, and Prior of the house of Watton in Yorkshire. In 1536-7 he was elected Bishop of Llandaff, to which he was consecrated in the chapel of St. Mary, in the Conventual Church of Friar preachers of the City of London, by John, Bishop of Rochester, by virtue of letters commissional from the Archbishop; John, Bishop of Bangor, and Nicholas, Bishop of Sarum assisting.† His election was confirmed by the Crown, 19th March, 1536-7, at which time he was empowered by royal licence to retain the mastership of Sempringham, and the priory of Watton *in commendem*. He obtained the degree of D.D., by special grace in 1537, and with the sub-prior, and seven canons, the prioress, sub-prioress, and eleven nuns, surrendered the house of Watton to the King on the 9th Dec., 1539. Whether Holgate connived at the suppression of his house, and played into the hands of the King, we cannot say, but it has been said that he did, for he was at once preferred to the see of Llandaff;

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favour of him, by which means he gained his cause; the prelate saying merrily to some of his friends that he was more obliged to Sir Francis than any man in England; for had it not been for his pushing him to London he had lived a poor priest all his days."

This Sir Francis Ayscough was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1545, 1549, and 1554. He was buried in Stallingborough Church, Lincolnshire. (Anne Ayscough, or Askew, burnt in 1546 for denying the transubstantiation, was of the same family.)—See *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1830., ii., 592-5, by the Rev. George Oliver, D.D.

* *Dodd's Church History*, vol. i. p. 373.

† *Drake's Eboracum*, pp. 452-3. *Athenæ Cantab.*

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at the same time no fewer than ten other abbots and priors being preferred to other bishoprics.*

There is an original letter (Harl. MSS., 37, B. 2) from Cuthbert Tunstall, Bishop of Durham, to Thomas Cromwell, Lord Privy Seal, desiring his lordship's favour to Robert Holgate, Bishop of Llandaff, in the cause between him and William Griffyth, some time Prior removable of St. Katharine's besides Lincoln. This letter is dated from York on the first day of March, 1536-7. There is also a letter to Bishop Holgate (*Cotton MSS. Cleopatra E. W. f.* 1) from Cromwell, vicar general, dated Jan. 7, 1538-9, with the King's letters, in which the bishop is enjoined "to the intent that the people may be taught the truth, and yet not charged at the beginning with over many novelties."† There is another

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* "If the abbot or prior was refractory, the difficulty was got over by displacing him, and substituting one who would be pliant enough for the visitors' purpose, as in the case of the Monastery of Evesham, from which Abbot Lichfield was thrust out to make room for Abbot Harford, a young monk, who surrendered the house directly, and thus obtained a pension of £240 a year, and was afterwards made Dean of Worcester. Sometimes pliant bishops were made abbots for the same object, or abbots rewarded with bishoprics on their engagement to surrender, as it is plain from the dates was the case with [Holgate, Bishop of Llandaff, and four other who are named]. If they did not show any of this pliant spirit, and where any disloyalty could be proved, they were made short work of."—*Blunt's Reformation*, pp. 338.

† "After my reight hartey comendations to yor lordshipp ye shall herewth receive the Kings hieghnes lres addressed vnto you to put you in remembraunce of his hieghnes travaell and yo^{r} dieutey tochinge ordre to be taken for preachinge to thintente the people maie be taught the truthe & yet not charged at the begynynge w^{t} ower manney novelties the publication wherof onles the same be tempered & quallified w^{t} moche wisdome do rather brede contention (Devision) and contrariety in opinion in the vnlerned multitude than either edifie or remove from

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letter (*Burnet, Part i., Coll. p.* 183) from Lord Cromwell to the Bishop, giving him instructions as to how he should proceed in the Reformation.

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them and out of their hartes such abuses as by the corrupte & vnsauery teaching of the bishoppe of Rome & his disciples have crept in the same the effecte of which lres albeit I doubte not but as well for the honestie of the matter as for yor owne discharge ye will so considre ande put in execution as shalbe to his graceis satisfactione in that behalf yet fforasmoche as it hathe pleased his majestie tappointe & constitute me in the rome and place of his supreme & principall mynestre in all matiers that maie toche aneythinge his clergie or their doing I thought it allso my parte for the exoneracion of my dieutey towarde his hieghnes & rather to aunswer to his graces expectacon opinion and truste conceived in me and in that amonge other committed to my fidellitie to desire & praie you in suche substanciall sorte and manner to travell in thexecution of the contentes of his graces saied lres nameli for avoidinge of contrarietie in preachinge (of) the pronunciation of Novelties withoute wise & discrite qualification and the repression of the temerites of those that eyther prively or apertly dyrectly or indirectli wold advaunce the pretendyd authoritie of the bishop of Rome As I be nott for my discharge both enforced to complaine further and to declare what I have now writton vnto you for that purpose (and for?) to charge you wt your owne faulte & to devise such remedy for the same as shall appteigne Desiringe yor lordship to accepte my meanynge herein tendinge onli to an honest freendli and Chren reformation for avoidinge of further inconvenience and to think no unkindness though in this matier wherin it is all mooste moore then to speake I write frankli compelled and enforced therunto bothe inrespecte of my private Dieutie and otherwise for my discharge forasmuche as it pleasithe his majestie to use me in the lieu of a counsaillor whose office is (as) an eye to the prince to forsee and in tyme to provyde remedy for suche abuses enormyties and inconveniencies as myeghts ells wythe a litle sufferaunce engendre moore yvell in his publique weal than could be after redoubled wt moche labor study Diligence and travaill And thus most hartely fare youe well ffrom the Roulles the vij of January

"Yor lordshipps ffrend

"Thoms Crumwell."

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Holgate, in 1537, was one of a Commission, consisting of 46 persons, including all the bishops, eight archdeacons, and seventeen doctors of divinity, appointed "for the purpose of searching and perusing Holy Scripture, and setting forth a plain and sincere doctrine concerning the whole sum of these things which appertain unto the profession of a Christian man, that errors and superstitions might be removed," and their labours resulted in a work entitled, "The Institution of a Christian Man," a work intended to promote unity, and to instruct the people in Church doctrine.*

There is also a letter from Holgate, as Bishop of Llandaff, to the Lord Privy Seal, dated Watton, 11th January, 1538, informing his lordship as to the state of the officers of the borders, "who be meete and well deserving, and who be unfitt for their places," and signed

In 1539 Holgate was appointed to the important office of Lord President of the Council of the North, which he held or a period of twelve years, and, to use his own words, "there was no complaints made against me during the whole of that time for lack of justice or corruption." During his term of office as Lord President he took an active part, he says, in quelling two commotions, one at Wakefield, and the other at Seamer, when from ten to twelve thousand rebels assembled, and about 23 persons were executed. His own charges in these commotions were £4,000.†

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* *Blunt's Reformation*, pp. 445, 520.

† "Robert Holgate, Bishop of Llandaff, appointed Lord President of the North, Sep. 30, 1539. Next president was Francis Talbot, Earl of

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In 1541, great dissatisfaction was expressed with the version of the Bible then in use, and a new version was decided on, and on its being agreed to distribute the New Testament first, among 15 Bishops for "perusal," the Old Testament being put into the hands of the members of the Lower House, the first and second epistles of St. Peter fell to the lot of Holgate, but, on account of some interference on the part of the King, the plan fell to the ground; but not before many portions of the work were in a forward state.

In 1541, Henry VIII. visited Yorkshire, the most material transaction during the King's residence at York being the issuing of a proclamation, inviting all persons dwelling in those parts who had any complaints to make of not having justice done them, either by the Council of the North, or any other person in trust, to repair to the King, and his council attendant upon him, and declare their wrongs. Bills of complaint poured in against the president and council, the new court for the north then lately established. The King and his council examined these complaints, and

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Shrewsbury."—*Troubles of our Catholic Forefathers.* For his appointment to the office of Lord President, see the *Parliamentary or Constitutional History of England*, ix. 227.

On the Great Council of the North being established at York, the house of the Lord Abbot of St. Mary's was converted into a palatial residence for the Lord President of the Council.

In 1538, Robert Holgate, Bishop of Llandaff, succeeded the Bishop of Durham as Lord President of the Council, and in 1544 he was translated to the See of York. On the 14th of March, 1545, the Corporation presented to his Grace, at the King's palace, an Exennium (present) of five great pikes and 5s. worth of Mayne bread. The Common Clerk, Macebearer, and two Chamberlains were ordered to take the present at 3 p.m.—*Antiquarian Walks through York.* Davies, p. 262.

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forthwith declared them all to be false and untrue, and that the president and council had done justly and uprightly.

The King in his progress in Yorkshire called at the old house of Sir Thomas Wentworth, at Bretton, where some memorials of this royal visit are still to be found. It was during this northern progress that the King became acquainted with some acts of infidelity on the part of his Queen, Catherine Howard, which took place at Pontefract, and for which she was put upon her trial at Doncaster, the justices who sat being the Earl of Shrewsbury; Robert Holgate, Bishop of Llandaff, as President of the Council of the North; Sir Marmaduke Constable, Knight; Sir John Wentworth, Knt.; and others. This trial led to the execution of the Queen, on the indictment found against her at Doncaster, with having carried on her illicit connection with Dereham and Culpeper, with the connivance and assistance of Lady Rochford during this residence at Pontefract, who were also executed soon afterwards.*

Holgate was translated from Llandaff to the See of York on the 10th January, 1544-5, succeeding Edward Lee, and having the great Cranmer for his immediate superior and contemporary. The latter achieved the greater notoriety, and almost altogether eclipsed his brother of York, whose actions were, in comparison, but few and slight; nevertheless, Holgate bore his part, and underwent his troubles in that critical period of the Reformation, and his name has therefore suffered much from the unnecessary severity of later times. One peculiarity of Holgate was that he never

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* *Account of King Henry VIII.*'s *Progress in Yorkshire*, by the Rev. J. Hunter, p. 9, in *Archæological Society's Report*, 1846.

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entered into religious controversies, which at that time were very rife. Although he has been represented as favourable to the Reformation, his views would appear to have been somewhat compulsory, and not of his own choosing. His promotion took place, says Fuller (*Worthies*, vol. ii., p. 499), at a time most critical to his intimate friend, Archbishop Cranmer, then left without a single friend to support him. He was confirmed at Lambeth on January 16th, and had the temporalities restored the 30th of the same month.* His confirmation is mentioned in the register of the Archbishop of Canterbury, in which is inserted the oath which he then took in renunciation of the Pope, and acknowledgment of the King's supremacy, which is very full and long. It was a new form of oath drawn up, and in future to be taken by all bishops, and Holgate was the first who took it. It was as follows:—†

"I, Robert, Archbishop of York, elect, having now the veil of darkness of the usurped power, authority, and jurisdiction of the See and Bishop of Rome clearly taken away from mine eyes, do utterly testify and declare in my conscience, that neither the See, nor the Bishop of Rome, nor any foreign potentate, hath, nor ought to have, any jurisdiction, power, or authority, within this realm, neither

* *Le Neve's Fasti*, p. 310.

† *Memorials of Cranmer*, vol. i. pp. 290-2. For an account of the investiture of Archbishop Holgate with the pall, see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1860. vol. ii. pp. 522-524, for some interesting correspondence relating thereto.

Among the Martyrs in *Fuller's Worthies*, under Yorkshire, he gives, "Robert Holgate, who was, as they say, a Parcel Protestant, imprisoned and deprived for being married."—*Fuller's Worthies of Yorkshire*, vol. iii. p. 405.

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by God's law, nor by any just law or means. And though by sufferance and abusions in times past, they, aforesaid, have usurped and vindicated a feigned and unlawful power and jurisdiction within this realm, which hath been supported till few years past; therefore, because it might be deemed and thought thereby that I took, or take it for just and good, I therefore do now clearly and frankly renounce, forsake, refuse, and relinquish that pretended authority, power, and jurisdiction, both of the See and Bishop of Rome, and of all other foreign powers; and that I shall never consent nor agree that the aforesaid See, or Bishop of Rome, or any of their successors, shall practise, exercise, or have any manner of authority, jurisdiction, or power, within this realm, or any other the King's realms or dominions; nor any foreign potentate, of what state, degree, or condition he be; but that I shall resist the same to the utmost of my power; and that I shall bear faith, troth, and true allegiance to the King's majesty, and to his heirs and successors declared, or hereafter to be declared, by the authority of the act made in the sessions of his parliament, holden at Westminister, the 14th day of January, in the 35th year, and in the act made in the 28th year of the King's majesty's reign. And that I shall accept, repute, and take, the King's majesty, his heirs and successors, when they or any of them shall enjoy his place, to be the only supreme head of the Church of England and Ireland in earth under God, and all other his highness' dominions. And that with my body, cunning, wit, and uttermost of my power, without guile, fraud, or other undue means, I shall observe, keep, maintain, and defend all the King's majesty's styles, titles, and rights, with the whole effects and contents of the acts provided for the same,

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and all other acts and statutes made, or to be made within the realm, in and for that purpose, and the derogation, extirpation, and extinguishment of the usurped and pretended authority, power and jurisdiction of the See, and Bishop of Rome, and all other foreign potentates as afore; and also as well his statute made in the said 28th year, as his statute made in the [said session of the] Parliament holden in the 35th year of the King's majesty's reign, for establishment and declaration of his highness' succession, and all acts and statutes made, and to be made in confirmation and corroboration of the King's majesty's power and supremacy in earth, of his Church of England and of Ireland, and all other his grace's dominions; I shall also defend and maintain with my body and goods, with all my wit and power, and thus I shall do against all manner of persons, of what estate, dignity, degree, or condition soever they be; and in no wise do nor attempt, nor to my power suffer or know to be done or attempted directly or indirectly, any thing or things, privily or apertly, to the let, hindrance, damage, or derogation of any of the said statutes, or any part thereof, by any manner of means, or for or by any manner of pretence; and in case any oath hath been made by me to any person or persons in maintenance, defence, or favour of the Bishop of Rome, or his authority, jurisdiction, or power, or against any the statutes aforesaid, I repute the same as vain and annihilate. I shall wholly observe and keep this oath. So help me God, and all saints, and the holy evangeles."

And then after this oath, followed the prayers before the benediction of the pall, and the ceremonies of delivering it.

Holgate was no sooner made Archbishop than, according

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to Bishop Burnet, he "set about reforming things in his province which had lain in great confusion during the whole of his predecessor's time, and on the 3rd of March following he took out a licence from the King for making a metropolitan visitation." * Some writers say that the new Archbishop was the creature of the King, and that he had been promoted to the See to assist in bringing about the Reformation, and it is also said that within a month after his translation, "it was easy to see what was the King's design in the appointment, for our prelate passed over to the King in one morning thirteen manors in Northumberland, forty in Yorkshire, six in Nottinghamshire, and eight in Gloucestershire, all belonging to this See.† In lieu of which he obtained thirty-three impropriations and advowsons, which had come to the Crown by the dissolution of some monasteries in the northern parts.‡ By these and other such

* In a volume in the Cotton Library, there is extant the King's letter to Robert [Holgate], Archbishop of York, relating to the visitation; signed by our archbishop, the Duke of Somerset the protector, and his brother, Sir Thomas Seymour, the Lord Russel, favourers of the Reformation; the Lord St. John, Petre, the secretary, who went along with it; Gage, Comptroller of the Household; and Baker, Chancellor of the Court of Augmentations, back friends to it.—The letter referred to is among the Cotton MSS., Titus B 2, fol. 89, Brit. Mus. Original on vellum, endorsed, "The King's letter to the Archbishop of York (Robert Holgate) concerning the Visitation then intended."

† This deed, which is now in the Rolls Chapel, contains fifteen skins of parchment.

‡ Hen. VIII. gave the advowson of Doncaster, "with other monastic impropriations to Abp. Holgate, as some compensation for the valuable manors which he made the see of York alienate to himself."—*Southey's Doctor*, ed. 1848, p. 100.

"Above the entrance of the Chapter House in York Minster, images of the twelve apostles, with those of the Virgin Mary and the child Jesus

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unworthy measures he greatly impoverished his See, but amassed great riches to himself, beyond what any other bishop in England was then master of." * Although represented as covetous and worldly minded, we nevertheless find that, as early as 1546, he founded free schools at York, Malton, and Hemsworth, and liberally endowed them.

By a Commission dated February 14, 1546, Holgate was directed by the King to make a survey of the Chantries, Hospitals, Colleges, Free Chapels, Fraternities, Brotherhoods, Guilds, and Salaries of Stipendiary Priests, etc.; and all the manors, lands, tenements, hereditaments, and possessions, with the goods and ornaments to the same, belonging or appertaining, within the County of York, City of York, and Kingston-upon-Hull. The result of this survey may be found in Stevens' supplementary volume to *Dugdale's Monasticon.*

Holgate took a principal part in the celebration of the

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in the midst of them, were formerly placed. These images, if we may credit tradition, were all of solid silver, double gilt, the apostles being about a foot high, judging by the places where they stood, and the Virgin nearly twice that height. It is generally believed that Henry VIII. stole them from this cathedral, or had them presented to him by Archbishop Holgate to prevent him from committing the theft."—Allen's *History of the County of York*, vol. ii. p. 109.

* *Drake's Eboracum*, pp. 452-3.

"The Archbishop of Canterbury (Cranmer) having been reported to the King as being very rich and covetous, was very much annoyed at such report, and denied the charge, and said that as for the rest of the bishops, 'that they were all beggars, but only one single man of them, alluding it is presumed to Holgate; and yet he dared well say, that he was not very rich, and that if he knew any bishop that were covetous he would surely admonish him.'"—*Strypes' Memorials of Cranmer*, vol. ii. pp. 383-4.

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obsequies of the French King Francis, on the 29th of June, 1547, at St. Paul's Cathedral, being habited in his pontificals.*

On the coming into England of the Admiral of France, Holgate was sent for to wait upon Prince Edward, and to receive him at Hampton Court. He went up from York with a cavalcade of 70 horse, and remained there from the 23rd August to Michaelmas, at a cost to himself of £1,000.

Under date May 31, 1548, there is a letter from the Archbishop, addressed from York, to the Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Lieutenant of Yorkshire, in which he states in pursuance of his lordship's letters, commissions had been directed into every Liberty and Wapentake, for the taking of musters, and collecting the numbers of the furnished men, and trusting there would be found more than three hundred light horsemen in Yorkshire, when occasion of service required, in addition to the one hundred which had already been sent northward under Francis Aislaby.†

In 1548, this prelate formed one of the Committee of Selected Bishops and Divines, who met at Windsor Castle during the summer of that year, to reform the "Offices" and prepare a new Liturgy—the same in substance as the Liturgy now used and revered by the Church of England.

In 1548, the Archbishop's infirmities were beginning to come upon him, and he wrote to the Earl of Shrewsbury, asking his lordship to obtain a license from the lords of the

* *A Chronicle of England during the Reigns of the Tudors.* By Charles Wriothesley, Windsor Herald. Camden Society's Pub. 1875.

† *MSS. Collections of Dr. Nuthaniel Johnston, in Lansdowne MSS.*, 980, fol. 46-7.

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Privy Council to excuse him from attending Parliament that year. In this he did not succeed; and later in the year he again writes to his lordship to inform him that as his request is denied, he is preparing to come up to London at the opening of Parliament. In the following year he again requested to be excused from his duties in Parliament, but his request was again denied; and in a letter to Lord Shrewsbury he says: *—"Forasmuch as I doe perceyve by your honorable letters of the xxiiij. of this instant, that you have much travayled to my lords of the Privye Counsell, that I might have been excused from Parliament till after Martynmas (for the whiche I most hartely thanke you), and that my absence cannot be lycensed from the same. Therefore immediately upon receipt of your said Letters I did putte myself w^th^ my household in readyness to repayre to the Parliament to doe my dutie to the Kinge's Majestye and others as appertaineth, and intende God wyllinge to take my journey upon Friday next comeinge, which will putte me in daunger of my lief by reason of the diseases of the collicke, stone, and strangurye, wherewith I am sore vexed and troubled. I hartely desire your Lordship to make mine excuse to my Lordes of the Counsaill for the beginninge of this Parliament considerynge now the time is so short, and I shall make all the haste upwards I can possibly. From Bishopethorpe, the xxix. of Octob., 1549. Your good Ld'shippes hartely assured, ROBERT, *Ebor.*"

In the month of May, 1552, the Archbishop bestowed, says Strype (*Ecclesiastical Memorials*, vol. ii. part 2, p. 77),

* *From Collections of Dr. Nathaniel Johnston in Lansdowne MSS.* 980. *fol.* 46-7.

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"some further part of his wealth very commendably, for the benefit of his successors in the See of York. For he made purchase from the King of the site, circuit, and precincts, capital messuage and mansion, lordship and manor of Scroby in Scroby, with the appurtenances, in the county of Nottingham, lately part of the possessions of the Archbishop of York; which premises were extended to the yearly value of £37 8s. 5½d. above all reprises and allocations. To have the premises to the Archbishop and Barbara his wife, during the life of the Archbishop, and of Barbara and either of them, living longest, with impetition of waste during the life of the said Archbishop; and after the departure of the Archbishop and his wife, then to his successors, Archbishops of York for ever. To hold of the King, and his successors, in free soccage; it was purchased by him for the sum of £630 7s. 6d."

After the death of Henry VIII., the Archbishop, we are told, "made no scruple to run into all the measures of the Court in the following reign of Edward VI., and had laid hold of that part of the indulging doctrine which allowed the clergy the liberty of taking wives." On the accession of Queen Mary, the sun of the prelate began rapidly to go down. The great charge against him was his marriage with Barbara Wentworth, which had been solemnised when he was advanced in years, and of which we give the following interesting account from *Drake's Eboracum*, pp. 452-3:—"I find in a ritual of one Robert Perkins, a priest in the Nunnery of Hampole, that banns of marriage were published at Bishopthorpe and Athwick (Adwick) in the Street, near Doncaster, betwixt Barbara Wentworth, daughter of Roger

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Wentworth, Esq.,* and Robert Archbishop of York. They were married, says my authority,† who was contemporary, and lived in the neighbourhood of Athwick, publicly January 15, 1549; but, adds he, 'one Dr. Tonge said

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* "Dodsworth has left an abstract of the will of this Roger Wentworth, who was of the Elmsal branch of the family, made in 1551, two years after the marriage, and in it we have not any notice of this daughter. The testator describes himself as of Hangthwaite, and directs that he shall be buried in his parish church of Adwick, where he now dwells. All his years in his farm-hold at Hangthwaite, he leaves to John Wentworth, of London, his second son, paying yearly to William, Richard, and John, his brethren, 33s. 4d. each. He makes bequests to Elizabeth Fitzwilliam, and Anne, her niece, if they will be ruled by his executors, and also to his sister, the Lady Wentworth. The rest of my goods I give to my children, that is to say, Anne Wentworth and Alice, and my four sons, William, John, senior, John, junior, and Richard. He makes his brother, Thomas Wentworth, executor. The manner in which he mentions his children has something peculiar in it; and Barbara might scarcely be worthy to be called his daughter, if what is further said of her be true, that she deserted a former husband, one Anthony Norman, to be the consort of the Archbishop. In the days of King Edward, Norman is said to have exhibited his petition to the King and Council, that his wife might be restored him; and finally, it is said, she was restored. I find a Barbara Wentworth mentioned in the will of another Wentworth, of Hangthwaite. This was John; the date 1556. He desires to be buried at Adwick, and names his sister, Barbara Wentworth, and brother, Thomas Wentworth, of Thurnscoe. I must leave this dark and perplexed affair with these few particles of additional matter bearing upon it, in the obscurity in which I have found it; only observing, that questions such as these, together with many others in our history and literature, will receive their best elucidation whenever the time comes that the depositaries of testamentary evidence are thrown more open than they now are to historical curiosity."—*Hunter's South Yorkshire*, vol. ii., p. 431.

† MS. in possession of Sir Brian Cooke, of Wheatley. *A Catalogue of the Bishops of England.* By Francis Goodwin, Bishop of Llandaff.

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in Court that he had married them privately some time before.*'"

"It seems this lady had been betrothed, and actually married in her childhood, to a young gentleman named Anthony Norman, which her parents thought fit to set aside, and our prelate made no scruple to break through the engagement. Norman, we find, was not passive in this affair, but in the reign of Edward VI. actually petitioned the King and Council to have his wife restored to him. The matter occasioned a great stir between the two husbands; but our prelate held fast by the apron strings till the beginning of the reign of Queen Mary, when he was not only dispossessed of his wife, but all his great riches were seized on, and himself sent to the Tower as a prisoner. This stroke was made at him, not so much for being a married bishop, as Goodwin himself writes, but for opposing that Princess's title to the Crown."†

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* "Robert Holgate married Barbara Wentworth, by whom he had two children."—*Gentleman's Magazine*, 1800, part I., pp. 321-2.

† "I fear that Holgate by his imprudent carriage, if not by worse actions, had brought a scandal on the Reformation. Most, if not all the persons highly instrumental in the Reformation, were eminent for virtue, but the probity of Holgate may be justly suspected. For in the Council Book of King Edward, I find this Order made on the 23rd of November, 1551. *A Letter to the Archbishop of York, to stay his coming up hither till the Parliament.* Also a letter to Sir Thomas Gargrave, and Mr. Chaloner, and Dr. Rookesby, *to search and examine the very truth of the matter between the Archbishop of York and one Norman, who claimeth the said Archbishop's wife to be his wife*, to which and the *supplication of the said Norman is sent to them enclosed.* It is to be lamented indeed, that such occasions of scandal were given by any eminent persons of our Church (although, to say the truth, Holgate acted very little in the Reformation), but when they are given they ought not

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Bishop Burnet, referring to the Archbishop's marriage, says:—"There was nothing that opened all men's mouths more than a complaint in the Council-book, made by one Norman against the Archbishop of York, that he took his wife, and kept her from him. The Council gave such credit to this, that a letter was written to that Archbishop not to come to Parliament, and another was written to Sir Thomas Gargrave, Mr. Chaloner, and Dr. Rookesby, to search and examine the very truth of the matter between the Archbishop and one Norman, who claims the Archbishop's wife to be his wife. And for their further instructions, the supplication of the said Norman is sent to them enclosed. What they did or what report they made does not appear. "Holgate, during all the time he was Archbishop of York," Burnet continues, "was more set on enriching himself than on anything else. He seemed heartily to concur in the Reformation, but he was looked on as a reproach to it, rather than a promoter of it. This might have a share in the censure that, as reported, King Edward passed on the Bishops in his time that, some for sloth, some for ignorance, some for luxury, and some for Popery, are unfit for discipline and Government."

Soames (*Hist. of the Reformation*, 1828, iv., 83), says:—"On the 4th October, 1553, the day preceding that on

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to be dissembled by an historian out of favour or affection to any party. It would seem that in the imprisonment of Holgate, this marriage was alleged as one of those heinous offences which were the pretenced cause of it. For in the instrument of his deprivation, it is said that he was for his marriage committed to the Tower and deprived."—*A Specimen of some Errors in the History of the Reformation.* By Anthony Harmer, p. xlix.

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which Parliament met, Holgate, Archbishop of York, was committed to the Tower, 'for divers his offences,' a sweeping kind of censure, which leaves the Prelate's particular delinquencies open to conjecture. Nor is it obvious what offences could be laid to his charge, unless it had appeared that he had favoured the Lady Jane. He was besides, married, and he professed the established religion, instead of the Queen's." In a note it is added, he was released after the imprisonment of something more than a year, together with divers others "concerned in the Lady Jane's or Wyat's business." His political offences, however, appear to have been but slight, for he was fined only 23 marks. One of those released with him was fined £200, and another £300."

We are informed by Strype * that a commission was, "in the month of March, 1553, granted to the Lord Chancellor, the old Bishop of Durham, and the Bishops of London, Chichester, and St. Asaph, to deprive King Edward's Bishops upon pretence of being married; and on the 16th day of that month they accordingly deprived the Archbishop of York,† the Bishops of Lincoln, Chester, and St. David's." It is further stated that, "on the 4th of October in that year, the Archbishop of York and divers others were carried to

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* *Strype's Ecclesiastical Memorials*, vol. iii., part i., pp. 57, 77, 153.

† Nicholas Heath, who succeeded Holgate as Archbishop of York in 1553, was oddly enough his predecessor in the bishopric of Llandaff. He obtained the latter see in 1539, but in the same year was translated to Rochester, and then, after four years, to Worcester.

Heath prevailed upon the Queen to restore Ripon lordship, with seven other manors members thereof, alienated by Holgate; Southwell he also got reverted, and five more manors in Nottinghamshire.

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the Tower. For presently after the Coronation certain Commissioners sat at the Dean of St. Paul's house, where all that were tardy were summoned, and many were made prisoners, and sent some to one prison and some to another. Others were forced to buy their peace by submitting to great fines; and others by relinquishing their fees and offices granted them under King Edward."

After Holgate had been sent to the Tower, his houses at Cawood and Battersea were seized upon, and his goods, plate, jewels, etc., confiscated.*

"At his former house they seized in gold, coined, three hundred pounds; in specialities and good debts, four hundred pounds more; in plate, gilt, and parcel gilt, sixteen hundred ounces; a mitre of fine gold with two pendants, set round about the sides and midst with very fine pointed diamonds, sapphires, and balists, and about the plane with other good stones and pearls, and the pendants in like manner, weighing one hundred and twenty-five ounces. Six or seven great rings of fine gold, with stones in them; whereof were three fine blue sapphires of the best; an emerald very fine; a good turkois, and a diamond; a serpent's tongue set in a standard of silver, gilt and graven; the Archbishop's seal in silver, his signet, an old antick in gold; the counterpart of his lease of Wotton, betwixt the late Duke of Northumberland and him, with letters patent of the purchase of Scrowby."

"Taken from Cawood and other places appertaining to the Archbishop, by one Ellis Markham; first, in ready money, nine hundred pounds; two mitres; in plate, parcel gilt, twelve hundred and seventy

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* *Memorials of Cranmer.* By John Strype, p. 440.

Froude's History of England, vi. 78.

"At Westminster, the 4th of October, 1553. The Archbishop of York was for divers offences this day committed to the Tower."—*MS. Council Book*, 1553-1557, fol. 25-6. Privy Council Office original.

No. CV., p. 335, intituled, "*Monye specyalities of dettes, plate, jewels, and writings left at Battersea by Robert, late Archbishop of York, when he was committed to the Tower, or which has been since taken from Cawood and other places by Ellys Markham.*

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ounces; and gilt plate, eleven hundred and fifty-seven ounces; one broken cross of silver gilt, with one image broken, weighing forty-seven ounces; three obligations, one £37 5s. 10d.; another, £15; another £10. Sold by the said Markham five score beasts and, as he is informed, four hundred muttons. Sold all the sheep belonging to the Archbishop, supposed to be two thousand five hundred. Moreover, he took away two Turkey carpets of wool, as big and as good as any subject had: also a chest full of copes and vestments of cloth of tissue; two very good beds of down, and six of the best young horses that were at Cawood. Proffered to make sale of all his household stuff in five houses; three very well furnished, and two metely well. Sold all his stores of household; wheat, two hundred quarters; malt, five hundred quarters; oats, sixty quarters; wine, five or six tun. Fish and ling, six or seven hundred, with very much household store, as fuel, hay, with many other things necessary for his household. Horses at Cawood, young and old, four or five score; they received rent of his own land, five hundred pounds yearly at the least. This was done by this Markham, upon pretence that the Archbishop was guilty of treason, or great crimes. He gave to many persons money to the value of an hundred pounds and above, that they should give information against him. Besides, they took away good harness and artillery sufficient for seven score men. All this spoil was committed when he was cast in the Tower. [See also inventory of goods seized on the Archbishop's deprivation, from the original MS., in Corpus Christi Coll., Cambridge. Printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1825. i. 595-7.] Of all this injury he made a schedule afterwards, and complained thereof to the Lords. By this one instance, which I have set down at large, as I extracted it from a paper in the Benet College Library, we may judge what havock was made of the professors of religion, in their estates as well as their persons; as this bishop was served, before any crime was proved against him."

The following is the substance of some articles and a petition which set forth the Archhishop's case at some length, and in which he prays for restoration to liberty and to the celebration of divine service. They are to be found in the *State Paper Office* under the reign of Queen Mary, and are catalogued under *Domestic Affairs*, vol. vi., No. 84 :—

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"*Articles of Roberte, the late Archbeishoppe of Yorke to the right Honourable Sr. Richarde Southwell, knt., one of the Queen's Ma'ties* most honorable pryvie councell.

"He being 68 years of age, married a gentlewoman, called Barbara Wentworth, by the Councel of Edward, then Duke of Somerset, and for feare of the late Duke of Northumberland using to call him Papiste, and he thought verelye then that he myght have done soo by godes lawes and the Kinges.

"Says that certain Bishops, being the Queen's Comrs., deprived him of the said Archbishoprick for the same, and suspended him from celebracon both sore against his will, and thinks the rents, &c., of the Archbp. are in the Queen's hands.

"Hath no goods belonging to the see of York saving a cross of silver, parcel gilt, and a miter of gold, and stones given to him on entering the benefice which Comrs. for the Church goods would have had from him.

"Hath a statute in law for life in the late dissolved Monastery of Watton, with all the demeans, lands, manors, and appurtenances granted to him by Hen. VIII., and had it for the pension of 24 houses of the Gylbertynes, he being sole Master and prior of the same.

"Hath purchased certain lands and tenements, some in fee simple, some in free Burgage, and all the revenues of these lands, money specialties of ditto, chattels belonging to him as proprietary of the same, goods, rents, revenues, etc., belonging to him."

"*Petition of Robert, late Archbishop of York, to Sr. Richard Southwell.*

"He married unwisely, gyving evell example to others, repenting of the same, humbly submits himself to the Queen, praying forgiveness, and notwithstanding he was councelled to marry by Duke of Somerset and others, and great fear of Duke of Northumberland, as he had great cause so to do. He thinketh himself very much worthie punishment for that offence, being in the vocation as 2nd prelate of the realm.

"Where be hath thus offended as is aforesaid, he promises to Almyghty God and to the Queen, by God's help, to keep his blessed laws, and the Queen's laws to the utmost of his power all the days of his life.

"Being deprived of the benefice, prays restoration, promising to keep the laws and to make amends for his offence.

Many others have also been deprived, but he thinketh he hath more

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to say for his restitution than they have, being much furthur gone amiss in religion than he was, and he submitteth himself for his only fault. He was president of the Queen's Council in the North for twelve years, and there was never any man had cause to complain for lack of justice or for corruption in the same for his behalf. He appeased two commotions in the North—one at Wakefield in Henry VIII.'s time, another at Seimer, Yorkshire, in Edw. VI.'s time ; whereas was 10 or 12,000 rebells up at the same time the commotions were in Norfolk, Devonshire, Cornwall, and other places in many parts of this realm. The commotion at Wakefield was appeased with the executing of 15 persons without charge to the king, and much to his advantage. At Semer, 8 persons were executed, and all the tyme of the warr he served in setting forth of men, provision for victual, setting forth of carriages and draught horses, and all the chieftains of the war were content with him, and had cause to be. His charges stood him to £4,000 and more as he can declare by the particulars thereof. At the coming in of the Admiral of France he was sent for in the beginning of May, and came up with 70 horse, and to wait upon Prince Edward to receive the said Admiral which came to Hampton Court, not before St. Bartholomew's Eve, 23rd of August, and continued until Michaelmas after. In this journey he spent £1,000. Further he hath erected three free Schools, and appointed a master and an usher to each at his own expense and purchased lands, and the house of Scrowbye, with the whole manor and reversions to the Bps. of York. Built bishops' houses, gave alms, and money to both universities and for young gentlemen of the Inns of Court and for finding poor men's children meat, drink, clothes, lodging, and learning. He refers this statement to those that charge him 'bycause I delight not in talke of no such matters for vanytie.'

"He was afraid of Duke of Northumberland because when he was warden of the Marches in the north he wrote him in causes of divers light parsons offenders, that I should forbear the order of Justice which I might not doo, and so I wrote to him accordingly when he took displeasure, and put mee furth of the Rowme of President and could lay no offence to my charge."—

"Then he purchased the reversion of Watton, in which I had estate for terme of my life ; then he callyd for the evidence of the same, to whome I denyed the delyverye for cause of such estait, that I had as is affore writen, and further that I had no warraunte to delyver theme and then he was in a greate raige wth me. And after that he spaike to me

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that I wolde release my estait to him, and he wolde give me a fee ferme to which I wolde not agree unto; then he was the moste of all displeased. Then at the p'ylament holden at Westm., in Lent was a twelve-month, I labored to have bene at home for dyuers sicknesses and Disseases which I had at that tyme, and also fearinge that he wolde be in hande with me for Watton. But I coulde have no lycense for any laybour that I coulde by my selfe or my frendes maike. And so touke my jorney to the p'ylament, and at my comynge vp, I labored to speake with him at his house at Chelseye, where I was ever put of by some delaye, and at lengthe he Denyed to speak with me, and after that sent Mr. John Throgmorton to me who declaryed that the duke said he had so much Busynesse of the Kinges and his owne that he myght attende to speake with me but he sent him to speake with me for Watton, and so he dyd: the furste he movyd me for my estaite for terme of liffe, and to taik a fee farme for yt: the same with a good assuraunce which thinge I Denyed; then after he spaike unto me for the lease therevnto for feare of more danger I agreid to have comunycacon: then he Shewed me that the duke wolde be at Chelseye the saterdaye next after, and then it was the beste for me to come thither and he wolde fynde the means that I shulde speake with him; then he spake to me that Mr. John Throgmorton had toulde him I was contented to com. with him for the leasing of Watton. I said I was contente so to Doo, requyring three thinges of him to helpe unto the whiche I had declayred to Mr. John afore at his beinge with me at Batersey. And theis folowinge was the requestes I maid. The furst was that forasmuch as the Bishoppe of Yorke was ordynarye of Nottinghamshire and had no house there that he wolde helpe me to the purchaise of the house of Scrowbye and the manner of the same after the raite of twentie years purchase, and three years day of payment, to me and the Bishoppes of York for ever. The second was that he shulde gett in a lease, that Launcelot Awforde had of the Bishoppes lande, which lease wolde have bene to the Bysshoppe and his successours worth one hundreith poundes, or two hundreith markes yearelye for kepinge there hospitalitie over & above ther yearelye rente of the said ferme. The third was for the ptronages of Benefices in the kings gifte, within the Dioceis of Yorke, to the valewe of sixe or seven hundreith poundes, as more playnelye appeared than by the p'ticulars y^r^of, and for restitucon of Colledgeis and prebendes wrongefullye taken frome the Churche of York, and hospitalls in like manr. taken away, ptronage of all the pmisses which belonged to the Archbushoppe, and for the ptronageis

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I shulde have gyven to the Kynge syxe hundreith poundes sterlinge, or else letten the duke have a manner called Huggate of the valewe of foure & twentie poundes, an aunciente signorie payinge nothinge for it. For Scrowbye the duke said he thought he coulde bringe to passe streight and to the other he trusted he shulde bringe to that I requyred shortelye. Not long after that he sent a warraunt to the chauncelor of the augmentacons signed w^th^ Dyuers of the lordes of the Councells hands, to comon w^th^ me for the bargayne and saile of Scrowbye, I receyvinge knowledge by the chauncelor of that warraunte thought there was no other remedye but to proceide in the lease sore against my will, for I knewe it wolde be two hundreith poundes yearelye hindrance to me excepte that he satisfied me in my three requestes aforesaide, which he dyd but in one of theme, & not fullye neither and that was the p'chaise of Scrowbye. And I wolde humblye desire the said lease to be voyde for he can not pforme his other two promiseis and it shall be losse to me yearelye so longe as I shall have y^t^ as is afforesaid and after to the Quenes ma^tie^ and her most noble succession hinderance yearelye as moche as is aforsaid. And moreovr my poore kinsfolkes, olde s^r^vantes, and tenauntes is, and shalbe trowbled with the Improvements of rents, fynes, and Dyvers othr vexations too muche. And if the said lease be voyde I wolde gyve to Mr. Thoms hungeite fortie pounds or an hundreith markes yearelye solonge as I shulde contynewe w^th^ y^t^, and it is a goodlye stronge house well covered w^th^ leide and for the pmisses it is verye necessarye that all shalbe survaide before the lease taik effecte.

Item.—Theis premisses tenderlye considered I desire yowe good Mr. Sowthwell for Christe saike to be a means to the Quenes most excellent and royall ma^tie^ to graunte to me my lybertie and that I may be restored to celebracon from which I have bene suspended a great tyme to my greate discomforth and I will offer to her ma^tie^ most humblye a thousande poundes sterlinge beseachinge her highneis to accepte that as a Remembraunce as parte of my dewtye w^th^ my contynuall praier and sruice During my lyffe.

(Indorsed)
"Towching the late
"Archebisshopp of Yorke.
"Dec., 1555."

The Archbishop, after having lain a prisoner in the Tower for a year and a half, was restored to his liberty on the 18th

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January, 1554-5. It is said that this was brought about through the intercession of King Philip with the Queen, though it is more than probable that the offer of £1,000 which Holgate made to the Queen was not without its influence. Before being set at liberty he had to give security for his good behaviour in a bond of twenty thousand marks.*

In respect of Holgate's release, Bishop Burnet says, "Some small favour was, at King Philip's desire, showed to some.† The Archbishop of York, as will be seen, was

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* "1554-5. On Friday, 18th Jan., prisoners delivered out of the Tower. Among them the chief was Robert Holgate, Archbishop of York."—*Holinshead.*

"At the Tower, the 18th Jan., 1554. Bounde to his good a bearinge, order, and fine at pleasure, the late A.B.P. of Yorke in XX thousand markes.

"At Hampton Court the xiv. of July, 1555, a letter of appearaunce to the late ABP of Yorke to be here on Tuesday next."—*Original Council Book Queen Mary MS.*

"The Archbishop of York continued in prison till 1554, when the Queen granted the request of the new King for the liberty of a great many prisoners, whereof this prelate was one. He died the next year through grief (as it is probable) and suffering."—*Foxe's Acts and Monuments*, pp. 1479, and seq.

† *History of the Reformation*, vol ii., p. 287, *Wood's MS. Note in Ashmole.*

Archbishop Holgate, it will be seen from the following, would not tolerate freedom of opinion on marriage among the priesthood:—

"Dec., 1553.—8. Petition of John Housman, of the diocese of York, to the Queen. Has enjoyed the office of a deacon in the Church at York for above seven years, receiving yearly £5, with meat and drink daily of the residentiaries. In Lent three years since, Robert, now Archbishop of York, maliciously expelled him from his living, without proving any fact against him. Had proceeded in holy orders unto priesthood within the Archbishop's diocese, and obtained testimonials

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released upon a bond of twenty thousand marks for his good behaviour. How far he recanted or complied does not appear. . . . I do not believe any were discharged that were imprisoned on the account of religion. As for this Archbishop, though he went along with the Reformation, yet I find nothing that gives any great character of him. I never saw any letter of his, nor do I remember to have seen any honourable mention made of him anywhere; and except those little fragments of his opinions on some points about the mass (which are in the collection) I know no remains of his pen. It seems that he did comply at this time in matters of religion, for without that it is not probable that either Philip would have moved for him, or that the Queen would have been easily entreated."

Dodsworth, who lived in the early part of the seventeenth

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of ability from divers of the Council of the North. The Archbishop would neither admit him to the priesthood, nor give him his letters dismissory, whereby he might have been admitted by another bishop. Was accused by the Archbishop of saying that it were better for priests not to marry, and the Archbishop would not let him have his office for being so sore against the marriage of priests. Has not only lost his office and revenues, but has heen constrained to seek another habitation. Is a poor young man without friends. Prays recompense at the Archbishop's hands."—*Calendar of State Papers (Domestic) Queen Mary Addenda*, 1553.

"William Jackson was presented to the Rectory of Darfield on the 30th June, 1534, by Thomas Bosvile, of Newhall. He was the last rector before the Reformation, and in the reign of Queen Mary was deprived as a married priest, and there was a dispute between the patrons—for Darfield had then two patrons—which turned upon this, whether this deprivation was equivalent to a death, or a voluntary resignation of an incumbent."—*South Yorkshire*, vol. ii. p. 115.

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century, says that Holgate, after his release from the Tower, retired to Hemsworth, his native village, where he died, and was so obscurely buried, that though "I searched the church of that place, and enquired of tradition for it, I could learn no account of his grave." * This is the account which has been accepted and repeated by various authors of the Archbishop's death and burial, but that it has no foundation in fact has of late years been ascertained. The late Mr. Charles Jackson, of Doncaster, writing to the author on the 23rd March, 1881, says: "Regarding the Archbishop's death, I have a valuable note by Mr. Hunter, which you may like to have, and therefore I transcribe it. He says: 'I have since obtained satisfactory evidence on this point. Inquisition at the Guildhall, London, before the Mayor and Escheator, 11th May, 2 and 3 Philip and Mary [1556], post mortem Magistri Roberti Holgate, *alias* Halgate, clerici, nuper Archiepiscopi Ebor. defuncti.' He was seised of a capital messuage called Master of Sempringham's Head house, with a garden belonging, situated in a lane called Cow Lane, in the parish of St. Sepulchre. Also of 6 other messuages with gardens to each, in the same lane. And being so seised, he died at the capital messuage beforementioned, on November 15th, last past. Thomas Holgate is his cousin and next heir, to wit, son and heir of Henry, late of Clayton, senior, deceased, brother of the said Robert, and, at the time of his death, was aged 40." † This settles the question of the Prelate's death.

The Archbishop's will bears date April 27, 1555. He

* *Dodsworth's Collections*, vol. 118, p. 80.

† MS. note in Mr. Hunter's *Annotated Copy of South Yorkshire.*

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describes himself as "Robert Holdgate, *alias* Halgate, doctor of divinity, late Archbishop of York, sick in body and whole in mind." His soul he bequeaths to God, St. Mary, and all the holy company of heaven; his body to be buried in the church of the parish where he dies, and his funeral to be done without worldly vanity, pomp, and pride. The parson of the church to have forty shillings for a mortuary, and to pray for him; and forty shillings more to be distributed among the poor on the day of his burial. His servants to be repaid any money which they have laid out for him.*

He then proceeds to his charitable foundation. He gives to his executors the site of the late Priory at Malton, with the demesne lands, tenements, and possessions in Old Malton, Wickham, and Howe House; lands at Yeddingham and Huggate; Bisset House and Bisset lands in the parishes of Hemsworth and Felkirk; the Chantry house and lands of the Chantry of St. Thomas, in the parishes of Hemsworth and Badsworth or elsewhere; the Treasurer's house and all his other buildings in the close of the Cathedral Church at York; lands at Newcastle belonging to the late Priory of the Friars there; that they shall, within two years after his decease, found an hospital at Hemsworth, subject to such conditions as he particularly describes. The land, etc., at York and Newcastle to be sold, together with the site, etc., of the Priory of Old Malton, for the immediate purposes of the will. To his executors, Sir William Peter, Knt., he gives 100 marks; Mr. Thomas Gawdy, serjeant-at-law,

* *South Yorkshire*, vol. ii., p. 431.

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£40; and to Sir Thomas Gargrave, of Nostel, Knt.,* Edward Wootton, doctor of physic, John Broxholme, gent., John Golding, clerk, and Thomas Spencer, of Old Malton, he bequeaths £20 each. He makes the Earl of Arundel supervisor, giving him £40. He gives to Mr. John Throgmorton, one of the Masters of the Requests, £20; and to Mr. Cordell, the Queen's solicitor, £20, "that they will be means to her Grace's highness, that, if it please Almighty God to call me in the mean season to His infinite mercy out of this tempestuous and troublesome world, mine executors may duly enjoy all my plate, goods, chattels, lands, according to right, and as they ought by the laws and statutes of this, her Grace's noble realm, to be." The will was proved in December, 1556. An inquest was taken after the Archbishop's death, and the executors obtained letters patent, dated 15th March, 1557, for carrying into effect the munificent intentions of the testator. In these letters the bequest is recited nearly in the terms of the will, and license given to the surviving executors (three being dead) to perform it. It is remarkable that neither in his will, nor in any foundation deed or statute, does he mention Hemsworth as the place of his birth. It is also remarkable that none of his kindred are mentioned in his will. He made the poor his heirs.

Holgate was one of the compilers, as we have said before, of the *Institution of a Christian Man*, and in Edward the Sixth's time he delivered the thirty-nine royal injunctions for the spoliation of the Cathedral of York, etc., with

* One of the executors of the prelate was Sir Thomas Gargrave, a man of great influence in his time, and a large landowner in Hemsworth and the neighbouring parishes.

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twenty-two of his own.* He has been described by the expressive term, "Parcel Protestant," which describes his character truly. He was pliant and easily led, and was certainly no martyr to the Protestant cause, and is unworthy of any unnecessary glory in that respect. His great offence was marrying; but this was not so heinous as it would appear at first sight, for he lived in strange times. The lady, it will be seen, had only been *espoused*, not *married*, in the proper sense of the term, to Norman; the fact seems clear that they had never lived together, and Norman's desire to complete his engagement only seems to have arisen when his betrothed had become the wife of the Archbishop. That Holgate's crime was in marrying, there is no doubt; it was against his own vow, and against the law, and there was a strong feeling against married priests. Holgate has been strongly denounced on account of his greed for money—aggrandising himself with the goods of the Church. True, he was weak and pliant enough to submit to King Henry and become his tool, and guilty enough to appropriate the property of the See; but that he retained much for himself of these lands and goods he received in return does not appear. Witness his great

* In the *Archæologia*, vol. x., p. 409, 1790, is a communication by John Caley, F.R.S., F.S.A., Keeper of the Records in the Chapter House at Westminster, entitled:—"*An Account of the Shrine called the Corpus Christi Shrine, York.*—An inventory of the jeuels thereunto belongyng, surveyed and exam'yd by the Right Rev'end Father in God, Rob't, Archebisshop of York (Robert Holgate, a reformer, who was committed to the Tower *temp.* Mary, and died in obscurity at Hemsworth, near Pontefract, 1553) and the Kyng's Ma'tie's Com'ission's, the 12th May, Anno Regni-Henrici Octavi, Dei Gr'a. Anglie, Francie, et Hib'nie, &c."

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benefactions—his three free schools, established in his lifetime, and then, finally, his hospital, which has shed such blessings on posterity. Considering Holgate's great benefactions to the county of York, he has not met with the attention and appreciation he deserves. No Yorkshireman seems to have cared to write his biography; his name is very little known, while there is not a stained glass window, nor even so much as a plate of brass in York Minster, to keep before us his name and deeds.

There is still on the premises of the rector of Hemsworth a fair carving of the Archbishop's arms, which was formerly over the door, or on some portion of the hospital there, taken down a few years ago—viz., the cross keys and crown of the See of York, impaling three bulls' heads erased—the latter being the coat of Holgate of Stapleton. But on the 29th June, 31st H. VIII., 1539, Robert Holgate when Bishop of Llandaff, had a grant of arms made to him by William Felow, Norroy, as follows:—*Or*, a bend between two bulls' heads *sable*; on a chief barry of four *argent* and *gules* a pastoral staff in bend *azure*. The latter varies from the arms of Holgate of Stapleton, and, by being thus granted with a difference, it almost appears as if the heralds considered that either the family of Stapleton had no lawful right to the three bulls' heads, or that the Bishop had not satisfactorily shown his connection with them. The foregoing grant of arms is printed at length, in Latin, in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldico*, vol. i., New Series, 1874, p. 336. It is somewhat remarkable that when raised to the See of York he should have continued to use the three bulls' heads, notwithstanding the grant of the other arms that had been made to him as above.

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There is a portrait of the Archbishop in the Governor's room at Hemsworth Hospital, which was exhibited at the Leeds Exhibition, a photograph from which is to be found in Mr. Hailstone's *Yorkshire Worthies*. A quarto engraving has been published from this portrait, executed by Stow. Over the entrance of the hospital is placed the inscription: "Hospital of Robert Holgate, Abp. Fd. 1555." In front of the chapel is a full-length stone statue of the founder in a niche under a canopy.

Holgate's Grammar Schools and Hospital were not contemporary foundations. The former, it will be seen, was established by him in 1546, when he was in the plenitude of his power and prosperity. It was one of three similar efforts which he at that time made for the promotion of good letters. The other when he was in disgrace and seclusion, and when, perhaps, he felt the approach of those infirmities under which he sought to support others. The property with which the schools are endowed is situate at Sinnington, in the North Riding, and at Bilborough and Hemsworth, in the West Riding of the county of York, which in 1857 produced a rental of £245 a year.* A large and commodious

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* "A Rental of the Purchased Lands of Mr. Holgate, the late Archbishop of York, within the Lordship of Old Malton, Wickham, Hemsworth, and How, for one year.

Imprimis.—For the Demeans of Old Malton..... xxviij*li.*
For Tenemts in Old Malton ..... xj*li.* j*vs.*
For Tenemts in Wickham..... xlv*s.* viij*d.*
For How House ..... xx*s.*
Summ..... xlij*li.* jx*s.* viij*d.*
Rents of Hugate of the whole Wold, per ann.... iiij*li.*
Rents of Lands & Tenemts in Hemsworth ..... jx*li.* x*s.* v*d.*
Demeans of Yeddingham, per. ann..... iv*li.* xix*s.* vi*d.*

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school house has since been erected at a cost of about £4,000, and the revenue of the school property is now estimated at about £400 per annum, in addition to which it is entitled to £300 per annum from the funds of the hospital. The estates belonging to the hospital are all situate in the three Ridings of the county of York, and are as follows:—At Old Malton and Pickering Marshes 900 acres, being part of the dissolved monastery of Old Malton; How House, at Old Malton, about 32 acres; Thorp Audlin, near Pontefract, 16 acres; Sand Hutton, near York, 230 acres; Huggate in the Wolds, 574 acres; two tenements in the city of York; in Hemsworth and Felkirk some farms amounting to nearly 200 acres; and nine chief or quit rents in Hemsworth,

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The Mannor of Yeddingham, per. ann.....	xl*s.*
2 Houses in Monk-bar, York, per ann.....	xxxiij*s.* iiij*d.*
Rents of Yeddingham, pr. ann	xxij*li.*
The Treasurers House at York, per ann.....	
An House in St. Mary's Gate, in the holding of Agnes Oakes, for the term of her life, rent free	vi*s.* viij*d.*
The Pyke Church in York.....	
The Chantry House in Bishopthorp, per ann ...	xvj*s.*
The White Friers, in Newcastle, in the holding of Mr. Lewnd, per ann.....	xxx*s.*
Land in London, in holding of John Wintworth	
Sand Hutton Grange, per ann	liij*s.* iiij*d.*

OUT RENTS.

Out of the Land at Malton	xxxix*s.* per ann.
Out of the Land at Yeddingham.....	xxxviij*s.* vj*d.*
Out of the Lands at Sand Hutton	v*s.* vj*d.*
Out of Land for a Fee Granted to Thō. Spencer for the term of his life.....	xl*s.*

This Rental was made ano Dni., 1572."—*Rawlinson's MSS.* c. 309, Bod. Library.

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South Kirkby, and Badsworth. Great abuses in the distribution of the rents by the trustees having occurred at the latter end of the last century, they having "combined together to defraud the master, brethren, and sisters of lands and hereditaments," and in the granting of leases, bills in Chancery were at different times filed, the last being in April, 1805, at the relation of William Wood Watson, Esq., then tenant of the estate at Old Malton, which suit was long protracted; but on the 29th Nov., 1816, a decree was pronounced amply to the honour and satisfaction of the Master, the Rev. John Simpson,* whose fidelity and resolution, in steadily pursuing the rights of the hospital, deserve the highest commendation. In the prosecution of this business Mr. Simpson had an able coadjutor in Mr. Charles Bowns, of Darley Cliff, near Barnsley, who was a most affectionate friend, as well as a most zealous and honourable assistant, in all his arduous trials relating to the concerns of the hospital, but who unfortunately died shortly afterwards, in consequence of a fall from his horse, and whose fair fame and reputation Mr. Carlisle in his *Endowed Grammar Schools* gratefully and with melancholy, endeavours to record, for an elaborate description of this establishment, which was nearly the last

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* "Died 10th March, 1832, at Hemsworth, aged 76, Rev. John Simpson, vicar of Thornton Curtis, Lincolns., to which he was presented in 1825, by C. Winn, Esq., and Master of Hemsworth Hospital."—*Gent's Mag.*, 1832, i. 375.

"Died 9th March, 1860, at Felkirk, Rev. Jno. Baines Graham, M.A., Fell. Queen's Coll., Camb. Vicar of Holy Trinity, Micklegate York, and of Felkirk, and Master of Holgate Hemsworth School. Eldest son of Rev. Jno. Graham, rector of St. Saviour's, York."—*Gent's Mag.*, 1860, i. 415.

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act of his well-spent life.* A century after the death of the Archbishop the revenue of the hospital would be little more than £130 a year, and of this amount each of the twenty recipients received £5 per annum in addition to some other small privileges, while the Master's allowance would be about £25. In the next century the estate had more than doubled in value, for Thoresby, writing in 1724, gives us the information that each brother and sister was in receipt of £10 18s., and the Master £50 per annum. As years rolled on the value of the estates increased so largely that the allowance for each recipient in the first half of the present century was nearly £100 per annum. From this amount some of the old people have been known to have saved as much as £300 or £400, and this circumstance, coupled with the fact that this liberal allowance was at times the cause of abuse, and the old hospital not having sufficient accommodation to admit of the residence of all the brethren and sisters within its walls, led to the promulgation of a new Scheme for its management, which was sanctioned by the Court of Chancery in 1857, and this brought about the reduction of the annual stipend of each poor person who became in the future a partaker in its bounty—from £100 to £40 a year; and with the surplus funds accruing through this change, a new and commodious hospital was erected at a cost of about £8,000, which was to be further enlarged, as the funds accumulated, with a view to the

* For account of Holgate's Grammar School and Hospital, see *Endowed Grammar Schools*, by Nicholas Carlisle, vol. ii., pp. 817-20; and *Lawton's Rerum Ecclesiam Eboracensia.*

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benefits being extended at a future time to a greater number of poor persons.*

£240 a year was also to be applied from the hospital revenue for the promotion of the education of the children of the poor in the four parishes named; whilst £300 per annum, as above stated, was also to be applied for the benefit of the Holgate Grammar School at Hemsworth.† The hospital estates now produce a yearly revenue of £3,200.‡

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* Archbishop Holgate's Hospital. Trustees advertised for plans for the erection of a new hospital for the accommodation of ten Brothers and ten Sisters, and for a Porter and Matron; together with a chapel for the Master's family, and twenty Brothers and twenty Sisters, and the officers of the Hospital, a Board-room, etc., and a new house for the Master. In the preparation of such plans parties are requested to keep in view the erection hereafter of uniform buildings for the accommodation of ten additional Brothers and ten additional Sisters. The structure to be plain and substantial, of brick with stone facings, and not to exceed £4,500.

EDWD. NEWMAN.
Clerk to the Trustees.

Barnsley, Feb. 3, 1858.

† "A scholarship founded in St. John's College, Cambridge, by the Rev. John Thurleston, of Hodroyd, for a native of the parishes of Wakefield, Felkirk, or Hemsworth, with preference to those educated in Hemsworth school for the space of three years, and being of the kindred of the said Mr. Thurleston; in failure of such, then to be chosen from those born nigh, or in one of the three said parishes, or at least within the county of York."—*Liber Scholasticus,* R. Gilbert, p. 117.

"John Thurleston, of Hodroydes, clerk, vicar of Felkirk, made his will, which was proved 26th January, 1583, giving his soul to God Almighty his Creator and to Jesus Christ his Redeemer, and his body to be buried at the east end of his parish church-yard."—*Torre's Test. Burials.*

‡ Nostel Priory, which is in the parish adjoining Hemsworth, holds a place in the history of Cardinal Wolsey. After his fall and his long

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suffering in the great chamber at Esher, Wolsey received a general pardon, and having been assured of the temporalities of the see of York, he took up his residence in the archiepiscopal city. The Council had agreed to advance him a sum for the expense of his journey, to which Henry VIII. added a thousand pounds. A circular letter was also sent with the royal signet, calling upon the nobles and gentlemen of the country to show themselves as regarded him "of toward and benevolent mind, using, entertaining, and accepting him as to his dignity doth appertain." In October, 1531, Wolsey started on his journey from Esher to Cawood Castle. During his progress he called at Nostel Priory, "where he in proper person the next day confirmed children in the church, from the hours of eight until twelve of the clocke at noon. And making a short dinner, resorted thither again soon after one of the clocke, and for weariness, at the last was constrained to call for a chaire; and there confirmed more children from the said hour until six of the clocke towards night, or ever he could finish or made an end, the number of children was suche. That done he went to his supper and rested him there all night; and next morning he applied himself to departe towards Cawood; and as he went, he confirmed almost an hundred chidren more; and then rode his way from thence. And in his journey at a plaine green a little beyond Ferrybridge, within a quarter of a mile, there were assembled at a great crosse made of stone, a number of more children, accounted by estimation to be about the number of 500; where he was faine to alighte, and from thence never removed until he had fully confirmed them every one; and then took his mule and rode to Cawood." Soon afterwards he was apprehended on a charge of high treason, but he expired at Leicester on his way back to London.

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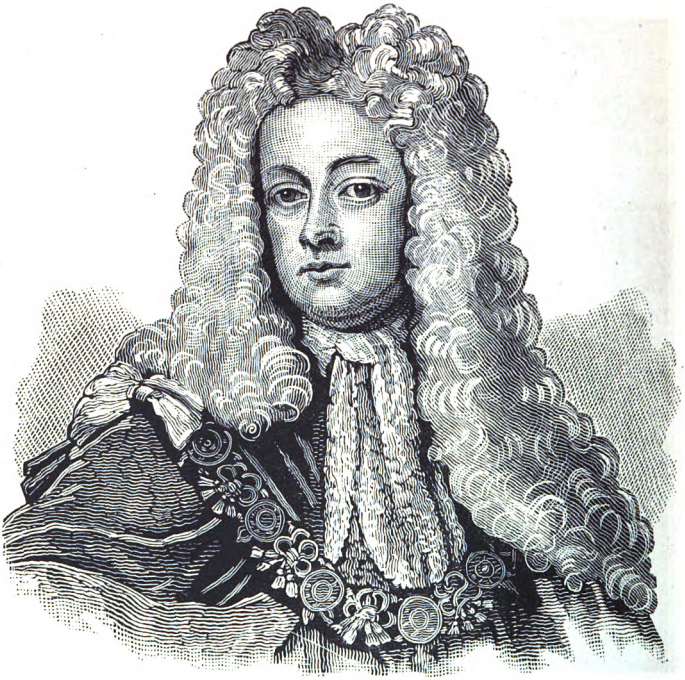

His Excellency Thomas, Earl of Strafford, Viscount Wentworth, Baron Stainborough, &c.

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XII.

The Earls of Strafford of Stainborough.

THE first Earl of Strafford, of Stainborough, was the son of Sir William Wentworth, who has been described as of Haselden Hall, Wakefield. He was one of a large family, and the second son; but his elder brother, William, dying unmarried in 1693, he became the head of the family. His grandfather, who was also called Sir William Wentworth, and was brother to the great and unfortunate Earl of Strafford who was executed on Tower Hill, was killed at Marston Moor in 1641. The latter married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Thomas Savile, Esq., of Haselden Hall, Wakefield,* and had issue

* "In Northgate, Wakefield, at the northern extremity of it, is one of the oldest houses in the town, a seat of the Wentworths, in which resided the great Earl of Strafford's brother."—*Nichols' Literary Illustrations*, Vol. v., p. 305.

Haselden Hall is an old building that was chiefly wood, but which has been cut into two parts and re-fronted, whereby its ancient character and picturesqueness have been destroyed. The detached parts still contain memorials of the Saviles. After the death of Thomas Savile, without issue, it passed to Sir William Wentworth, and afterwards to the Lords Strafford, of the second creation, and at the death of the last Earl it went to his sister, Mrs. Hatfield Kaye, of Hatfield Hall, and afterwards by devise to Mr. John Harter, who took the name of Hatfield.

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Sir William Wentworth, father of the Earl. Sir William married Isabella, daughter of Sir Allan Apsley, Knt.,* Treasurer to the household of the Duke of York (afterwards King James II.), by whom he had issue five sons and six daughters. Sir William inherited the greater part of the Savile estates at Wakefield, in right of his mother. "In legal documents of the time," says Mr. Cartwright, "he is usually described as of that town, but it does not appear that he was for any considerable time a resident there, all his family with one notable exception having been born elsewhere. In 1672, his newly acquired estates in Yorkshire had given him such a position in the county that he was chosen to serve the office of High Sheriff; and there is every reason for believing that during his year of office he occupied Stanley Hall, near Wakefield, at the time the property of the Pilkington family. At any rate, his son Thomas was born there, if we may take an assertion of that fact in one of his

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* Lucy Apsley, sister to Sir Allan, it is interesting to know, married the well-known Puritan, Colonel John Hutchinson, Governor of Nottingham, and wrote the famous memoir of her husband.

"Isabella, Lady Wentworth, was a lady of the bed-chamber to the Queen of James II., at the time of the disputed birth of the Prince of Wales, afterwards known as the Pretender. From a note to the Oxford Edition of Burnet's History, we learn that, in 1703, Lady Wentworth gave testimony to the genuineness of the birth to Dr. Hickes, Dean of Worcester, at the lodgings of Mrs. Dawson, in St. James's Palace, who had also been of the bed-chamber to the same queen. Lady Wentworth added to her testimony 'that she had asserted the truth of his birth shortly after the Revolution to Dr. Burnet, Bishop of Sarum, when she told the doctor that she was as sure the Prince of Wales was the Queen's son, as that any of her own children were hers.

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own letters as true.* The parish registers of Wakefield prove Thomas to have been baptized in the old church of that town on September 17th, 1672. Six months afterwards, that is about the time of the termination of Sir William Wentworth's Shrievalty, and of his election as Member of Parliament for Thirsk, the family moved up to London, where the influence of the Apsleys was sufficient to procure for Lady Wentworth, and for most of her children as they grew up, appointments of more or less value connected with the Court."

Sir William Wentworth died in 1693,† Lady Wentworth

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* Evidence of the above facts is gained from a letter of Wentworth when at Berlin, in May, 1709. He is arranging for his mother to take a journey from London into Yorkshire to see his new estate at Stainborough, and adds:—"If you have a mind to see Wakefield you may go from Strafford (his new residence at Stainborough) in the morning, and come back the same night. It is not ten miles distance. Or else you may go there of a Saturday and lie there, and so go to church at Wakefield the Sunday, or either be there the Sunday night or return to Strafford; and then in the afternoon you go from Wakefield to see 'Standly Hall,' where I was born, if your curiosity leads you to see that." To which Lady Wentworth replied:—"To the best of my remembrance your father gave ten or eleven pounds for two horses to his coach down to Wakefield. Your sister has been used to travel, I never but with the court, since you was half-a-year old. Upon my word I pleased myself much with the fancy of seeing the house you was born in, and I wish I could see Ashby, and 'Hulback,' and 'Sammonby' (in Lincolnshire)." — *The Wentworth Papers. J. J. Cartwright, M.A.*, p. 2.

† "June 28, 1693. Sir William Wentworth, heir to the Lord Strafford, died lately of an apoplexy."—*Luttrell's Diary.*

"Sir William Wentworth died in July, 1692, so that on the death of his cousin William, second Earl of Strafford, Thomas inherited the second title of Lord Raby, the earldom being extinct, and took his seat in the House of Lords in November, 1695. For some family reasons, now difficult to fathom, the Earl had not thought fit to secure

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surviving him until 1733, when she died at an advanced age.*

Their eldest son, William, took early to the profession of arms, was a cornet in the army of James II., and going over to the Prince of Orange, at the Revolution, he was made captain of a troop of horse, and served in Flanders up to the time of his death, in 1693. Their third son, Peter Wentworth, was equerry, first to the Duke of Gloucester, and afterwards to Prince George of Denmark, King George I., and Queen Caroline. He became seated at Henbury, in Dorsetshire, and his grandson succeeded to the earldom of Strafford in 1791, and came to reside at Stainborough. Paul, the fourth son, was killed at the siege of Namur, in 1695. Allan, the fifth son, was page of honour to King William III., and a cornet in his brother's, the then Lord Raby's, regiment of dragoons when only 17 years of age; he was killed mounting the breach in the attack on the citadel at Liege, on the 23rd October, 1702, while acting as a volunteer.

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any portion of his estate to the future holder of his second title, and had devised nearly the whole of it to his nephew, Thomas Watson, second son of Lord Rockingham. Watson thereupon changed his name to Wentworth, and from his descendants the present Earl Fitzwilliam derives Wentworth Woodhouse, and many estates in Yorkshire and Ireland. This disposition of the Strafford property was, no doubt, a sad blow to the successor of the empty title, and throughout life he seems to have been an open enemy to the more fortunate branch of the family; of this we shall find evidence enough hereafter."—*The Wentworth Papers, by J. J. Cartwright, M.A.*, pp. 67.

* "Sep. 9, 1733. The lady Wentworth, mother to the Earl of Strafford, dead." A note adds, "Widow of Sir William Wentworth, of Northgate Head, in Wakefield, Knt., died 31st July, 1733, aged 80."—*Yorkshire Diaries, Surtees Soc. Pub.*, Vol. 65, p. 322.

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Of the daughters, Frances Arabella, maid of honour to Queen Mary (Queen of James II.), married Walter, Lord Bellew; Anne, maid of honour to Queen Anne, when Princess of Denmark, married James Donolan, Esq.; Isabella, also maid of honour to Queen Anne, married Francis Arundel, of Stoke Park, Northampton; whilst Elizabeth espoused John, Lord Arundel, of Trerice.

Thomas, the second son, and now, on the death of his brother William, the eldest surviving son, of Sir William Wentworth, inherited the dignity of Baronet by descent, and on the death of his cousin William, Earl of Strafford, in 1695, succeeded to the Barony of Raby, which was limited to the brothers of Thomas, Earl of Strafford, and their descendants.*

But the whole of the family estates were alienated by Lord Strafford from the male line of the family, and this would appear, with some previous differences, to have created much bitterness of feeling between the surviving head of the family and the successor to the family property. Sir William Wentworth, who was at one time much employed by Lord Strafford, would appear from the following letter to have advanced him large sums of money in times of need; and we find Lord Raby, when in the midst of his military career, engaged in Chancery proceedings with the representatives of Lord Strafford to recover a large balance due on these sums; and it is also stated upon authority that he contested the legality of the disposition, by the Earl, of the

* "October 22, 1695.—The Earl of Strafford is lately dead in Yorkshire, and is succeeded in his Barony of Raby by Mr. Wentworth, groom of the bedchamber to the King, but his garter is not disposed of."—*Luttrell's Diary.*

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Wentworth estates. The following letter will throw some light on the subject :—

"Dublin, 9th July, 1695.

May it please yor. Ldp,—

I am requested to give yor. Honor the state of the account depending in Chancery between yor. Ldp. and Mr. Tho : Wentworth, which stands thus :—

	£	s.	d.
Sir William Wentworth lent to the Earl of Strafford from the year 1670 to 1681, as appears by 11 severall deeds.....	11662	0	0
It also appears that from the year 1678 to 1685 Sir Wm. returned to his Ldsp. by Bills of Exchange, and other ways which answered his Ldp's. occassions near.....	10000	0	0
	£21662	0	0
In the year 1678 His Ldp. appointed Sir Wm. one of his Commisrs., and it doth appear that he received from the several tenants to his own use to the year 1685, wch was the year he quitted the Earl's service, about	9000	0	0
Sir Wm. received more by order of Court between 1685 and 1688	3000	0	0
More received in 1695 and 1696...	1000	0	0
	£13000	0	0

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The balance due to yr. Ldp. is £8,662, the interest of the 11 deeds will be very considerable, if the Court adjudge, none or few errors in them, which is now before the Masters. I am of opinion that when both accounts come to be stated with interest there will be a ballance due to yr. Lordship of over £10,000, &c.

R. SMITH."*

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* *Strafford Papers, Addl. MSS.*, No. 22,222, fol. 350.

"Some proceedings were going on in 1701-2, as will be seen from the following extracts from the *Journals of the House of Lords*, Vol. xvi. p. 684, Vol. xvii. p. 26, 27, 54:—'*Wentworth v. Lord Raby.*' May 4, 1701. Upon reading the petition and appeal of the Hon. Thomas Wentworth, Esq., from several orders and reports thereupon made in the Chancery of Ireland, in a certain cause there depending, wherein the said appellant and others, the executors of the Rt. Hon. William Earl of Strafford, the appellant's late uncle, were complainants against the Rt. Hon. Thomas Lord Raby and Mrs. Anne Wentworth, and others, defendants; and praying the reversal thereof.

"It is ordered, when the Lord Raby returns from beyond the seas, he may have a copy of the said appeal; and do put in his answer thereunto in writing.

"Feb. 3, 1701-2: Ordered that this House will hear counsel upon the above appeals and answers on Wednesday, 18th Feb., at eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

"Feb. 4, 1701-2: Petition of Thomas Wentworth alias Watson read; and the petitioner put in his answer to Lord Raby's appeal on Tuesday last, and yesterday both appeals were ordered to be heard the 18th inst.; that the petitioner is ready to proceed on the matter of his own appeal; but in regard there are books of Accompts in Ireland, which were kept by Sir Joshua Allen and Dr. Hall since deceased, which were used in the Chancery in Ireland and will be necessary for the petitioner's defence at the hearing on Lord Raby's appeal; and praying an order to the executors of Sir Joshua Allen and Dr. Hall to produce the said books.

"Ordered to be produced.

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The Duke of Manchester, in *Court and Society from Elizabeth to Anne*, Vol. II., pp. 326, gives the following:—"The first Marquis [of Rockingham] was a very singular man. The Earl of Strafford had bequeathed to his father the greater portion of his estates, and with them the whole of his valuable papers of Gascoigne, the antiquary. There were seven chests full of these treasures, and some of them were as old as the Conquest. But the Marquis (the father of the minister) burnt every paper! He was moved by fear that if they were preserved, or published, the family of Strafford [of Wentworth Castle] might discover something in them whereby he might be disturbed in the possession of his estate."*

"Appeal adjourned to 26th Feb. on account of counsel's illness.

"Again adjourned.

"March 2nd, ordered and adjudged that the appeal and petition of Thomas Wentworth shall be dismissed the house—and orders and decrees complained of affirmed."

* From the year 1724 to 1730 William Oldys, the antiquary, spent most of his time at Wentworth House, with the first Earl of Malton, with whom he had been intimate in his youth, and it is believed assisted Dr. Knowler in the editorship of the Earl of Strafford's letters and despatches. It was during Oldys' stay at Wentworth House that he became an eye witness to the destruction of Gascoigne's collections.

In Oldys' account of this literary holocaust he says that "Gascoigne, after his death, about the time of the Restoration, left his vast and most valuable collection of deeds, evidences, and ancient records, with great part of his library, to William, the son of Thomas, the first Earl of Strafford, who preserved the books in the library at Wentworth Woodhouse, and the said MSS., in the stone tower there among the family writings, where they continued safe and untouched till 1728, when Sir Thomas Watson Wentworth, newly made or about to be made Earl of Malton, and to whose father William, Earl of Strafford, left his estate,

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To return to young Wentworth (afterwards, successively, Lord Raby, the Earl of Strafford, etc.) Of the place of his education no record has been found, but he appears in the list of pages to Mary, the Queen of James II., when only fourteen years old, his mother at the same time holding the post of bed-chamber woman to her Majesty. Thus it will

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burnt them all wilfully one morning. "I saw," says Oldys, "the lamentable fire feed upon six or seven great chests full of the said deeds, &c., some of them as old as the Conquest; and even the ignorant servants repining at the mischievous and destructive obedience they were compelled to. There was nobody present who could venture to speak but myself, but the infatuation was insuperable. I urged that Mr. Dodsworth had also spent his life in making such collections, and they are preserved to this day, with reverence to their collector, and that it was out of such that Sir Wm. Dugdale collected the work which had done such honour to the peerage. I did prevail to the preservation of some few old rolls, and public grants and charters, a few extracts of escheats, and a few original letters of some eminent persons and pedigrees of others, but not the hundredth part of much better things that were destroyed. The external motive for this destruction seemed to be some fear infused by his attorney, Sam Buck, of Rotherham (since a justice of the peace), a man who could not read one of these records any more than his lordship, that something or other might be found out one time or other by somebody or other—the descendants perhaps of the late Earl of Strafford, who had been at war with him for the said estate —which might shake the title and change its owner.

In 1729, Oldys wrote an "Essay on Epistolary Writings, with respect to the Grand Collection of Thomas, Earl of Strafford, inscribed to the Lord Malton." The MS. was probably of some utility to his Lordship and his Chaplain, Dr. Knowler.—*Memoir of William Oldys, Norroy King-at-Arms*, pp. 8-9.

This was not the first destruction of valuable MSS. in this neighbourhood, for Sir Henry Savile, of Tankersley, it will be seen from the subjoined note had been a similar offender in this respect. "In 1565, Hugh Fitzwilliam, of Sprotborough, with great cost, care, and industry, collected the records of his family, from which I shall deduce my

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be seen, being a younger son, he had started out early in life, and was soon appointed as cornet in Lord Colchester's (afterwards Earl Rivers) regiment of horse. His commission was signed by the Prince of Orange on December 31st, 1688, before he was declared king, and very soon after his appointment the young cornet was sent into the Highlands with the expedition against Dundee, in which service he suffered great fatigues, the detachment being unprovided with tents and many other necessaries. After being marched backwards and forwards for several months, and having been in many engagements with the enemy, he was sent by General Mackay in charge of the sick and wounded upon less exhausting duties, it being wondered at, particularly by the General, that so young a man was capable of enduring such fatigues. Lord Dundee routed King William's troops at Killycrankie, on July 16th, 1689, but lost his own life. Young Wentworth afterwards served in every campaign with King William in Flanders, where his elder brother, who was his captain, died of a fever at Brussels, contracted in the

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account, and for the verity thereof, it will not be improper to relate some particulars set forth by the said Hugh Fitzwilliam, in a very curious manuscript, now in the custody of the present Earl Fitzwilliam, beginning thus: 'The burninge of three great Bagges of evidence of the Fitzwilliams, by Sir Henry Savell, of Tankersley, who married Elizabeth Sutell, sole daughter and heire to Margery Fitzwilliam, pretending title by the right of his wife to the lordships of Emley, Sprotborough, Warenhall, Darrington, Cromwell, Athwicke, Plumtree, and others, and meaning thereby to deface the blood and name for ever hath moved me, Hugh Fitzwilliam, now eldest son of John Fitzwilliam, late of Sprotborough, and of Hathilsey, to gather together all such pieces of evidence and matter of record as by careful scrutiny I could find in the Tower, in the Exchequer, in the Rolls, and in the office of the Heralds, thereby to maintain the rights of the said lordship to the blood and name, &c."—*Collins' Peerage*, Vol. v., p. 232.

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field, and his two younger brothers, Paul and Allan, were killed in his presence, one at the siege of Namur, and the other at Liege, as before mentioned.*

Young Wentworth also commanded the detachment that made the van-guard at the battle of Steinkirk, which appeared before the French by break of day, on August 3rd, 1692, and rested in their sight till after sunset, and then made the rear-guard of the army; and of the squadron of which he was, there came not 50 alive, out of 250. Whereupon, on the report of his behaviour in that action, by Major-General Dumprie, in the Dutch service, who commanded that van-guard, King William desired the Lieutenant-Colonel of that regiment, who was then a groom of his bedchamber, to bring him into his presence; and then promised him, in person, to advance him in the army, and made him his Aide-de-camp.

At the battle of Landen, on July 29th, 1693, he was one of the four or five who, standing by King William to the last, accompanied him over the river Manheim, after the defeat of his army. And at the end of that campaign, on October 4th, his Majesty gave him a commission of Guidon and Major in the first troop of Horse Guards. Also soon after, on January 20th, 1693-4, made him Cornet and Major in the said troop of Guards, and Groom of his Bedchamber.

On the decease of William, Earl of Strafford, he succeeded, as we have said, to the title of Lord Raby, and was introduced into the House of Peers, on November 25th, 1695.†

* *Collins' Peerage*, vol. iii. p. 57.

† "Nov. 25, 1695. Yesterday the House of Lords adjourned until Monday next; but before they rose the Lord Dartmouth was introduced, as also Mr. Wentworth, now Baron Raby, which fell to him by the death of the Earl of Strafford, who left his estate to Mr. Thomas Watson, brother to the Lord Rockingham."—*Luttrell's Diary.*

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On June 13th, 1697, his Majesty gave him the royal regiment of Dragoons ;* and in 1698, when King William went to meet the Duke of Zell at the Goor, his lordship was chosen to be one of the few of his court to attend him thither, where he was in great danger of his life ; for at a hunting of wild beasts, he went alone to attack a wild boar, who at his second thrust threw him down, and would have torn him to pieces, had not King William sent the two huntsmen that were his only seconds, to his relief, who with their spears killed the wild boar upon him. It was when at Zell his lordship first saw and became acquainted with the Princess Sophia, her son, the Elector of Hanover, and her grandson, afterwards George II., then a youth.

In 1701, he was sent by King William to congratulate

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* The First or Royal Regiment of Dragoons commanded by Lord Raby from 1697 to 1715. They were known by the title of Lord Raby's Dragoons, and distinguished themselves in the campaigns of the period. They are often mentioned by contemporary writers. Luttrell, in his diary, under date 17th July, 1697, says : "The Earl of Westmoreland is made major of the Guards in the room of Lord Raby. —Feb. 25, 1698-9. Last night came out a proclamation for disbanding the army in England, except 7,000, in which was included three regiments of Dragoons, Raby's, Lloyd's and Essex's.—July 8, 1699. A commission is out, of which Lord Raby is chief, to go into Lincolnshire, to inquire after the rioters who threw down the banks there, and let the sea into the fens, and drowned several thousands of acres, to the end they may be punished.—June 11, 1700. Last week his Majestie reviewed the Lord Raby's regiment of Dragoons, and ordered them to march for the north of England.—Thursday, May 28, 1702. Tuesday last, the Earl of Arran's regiment of horse embark't for Holland, and the Lord Raby's Dragoons are preparing to follow.—Aug. 7, 1703. The forces designed for Portugal are now settled, viz. : the Lord Raby's Dragoons from Flanders ; from England those of Essex, Lloyd, &c."

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Frederick I., King of Prussia, when by the Emperor's consent, he assumed that title;* and when King William, on February 26th, 1701-2, had the fall from his horse (of which he died), his lordship was then seeing his regiment embark at Greenwich for Flanders; but on his return was every day with his Majesty till he expired, on March 8th following.

In 1702, the first year of Queen Anne, Lord Raby served with his regiment in Flanders, and was made Brigadier-General of her forces. In the same year, according to *Luttrell's Diary*, he had the appointment given to him of Governor of Jamaica,† but he does not seem to have filled that post, and we find that the same year he was appointed Envoy-Extraordinary to the King of Prussia. ‡ His lordship arrived in the Maes on April 21st, 1703, and

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* "Saturday, March 22, 1701. The Lord Raby is going envoy to the Court of Brandenburgh, to compliment the King of Prussia, in the name of his Majesty, upon his new elevation."—*Luttrell's Diary.*

† "Sept. 5, 1702.—I am told Major-General Ingoldsby has declined the government of Jamaica, and that her Majesty has given it to Lord Raby."

"Sept. 12, 1702.—The Lord Raby's commission to be governor of Jamaica is passing the privy seal."

"Nov. 24, 1702.—The Earl of Marlborough is hourly expected from Holland; the Earl of Rivers, Lord Raby, &c., being already come. The command of the English forces there this winter is left to the Lord Cutts."

‡ "March 20, 1702-3.—The Lord Raby is embark't for Holland, from whence he is to go her Majesty's ambassador extraordinary to the King of Prussia."

"August 29, 1704.—The Lord Raby, our Envoy at the Court of Prussia, is returned home."

"Dec. 30, 1704.—A considerable sum of money has been remitted to the Lord Raby at Berlin, for the use of the 8000 Prussians who are to assist the Duke of Savoy."

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went to Arnheim to review his regiment quartered there, and from thence waited on the Duke of Marlborough. Returning from the army to the Hague, in the beginning of May, he set out on his journey two days after; and on Jan. 1, 170$\frac{3}{4}$ was made Major General.* The Duke of Marlborough, after the battle of Hockset, on August 13th, 1704, arriving at Berlin on the 22nd, was met without the city by his lordship, who on the 25th, gave his grace an entertainment, at which the King, with the Margrave, his brother, was present. His lordship then returned to England, and was deputed to go on a mission "to Poland to acquaint the King of Sweden that in case his Majesty did not withdraw his troops out of that kingdom, and come into the grand alliance by a certain time, her Majesty, the Kings of Denmark and Prussia, the Princes of Lunenburgh, and the States of Holland, would force him to it.

In 1705, Lord Raby was Ambassador-Extraordinary to the King of Prussia, and made his public entry into Berlin on April 7th; and the same year (though in that post) he served the campaign under the Duke of Marlborough, when he forced the French lines, and took Menin, Ostend, etc. On his return from the army, he waited on the Elector of Hanover, arriving there on October 3rd, and after a week's stay, proceeded on his Embassy to Berlin; and whilst there, he was, on January 1st, 1706-7, constituted Lieutenant-General of Her Majesty's forces.† Also, on January 14th

* "April 7, 1705.—Her Majesty has made the following promotions of general officers, viz., Brigadier Frederick Hamilton, Lord Windsor, Lord Raby, and Brigadier Tidcomb, major-generals."—*Luttrell's Diary.*

† "Sept. 5, 1706.—It's said the Queen has sent orders to Lord Raby, her ambassador in Prussia, to go to the Emperor's Court with the

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following, the King of Prussia, with the Prince and Princess Royal (daughter of the Elector of Hanover), dined with his lordship at Berlin; which was the first time of their Royal Highnesses dining abroad after they were married. And on June 9th, 1707, the King and the Prince Royal did his lordship the honor to sup with him, at his house of retirement near Berlin.*

Lord Raby had a large establishment at Berlin, as will be seen from the following memorandum:—

"The Household of His Excellency the Lord Raby, Ambassador-Extraordinary at Berlin, in the month of December, 1705:—

2 Mr. Tilson, Secretary to Embassy.
3 Mr. Mogg,
4 Mr. Powell, } Gentlemen to do.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

5 Monsr. Menville, Maitré d'Hotel.
6 Mr. Aires, Chaplain.
7 Mr. Taylor, Valet de Chambre.
8 Monsr. Durand, French Valet de Chambre.
9 Mrs. Grigson,
10 Mrs. Wolsdorft, } Housekeepers.
11 Mr. Brandel, Confectioner.
12 Monsr. Le Pierre.

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character of Envoy-Extraordinary, in the room of Mr. Stepney, coming home."

"Oct. 15, 1706.—'Tis said the Lord Raby, ambassador to the King of Prussia, is to go Envoy-Extraordinary to Vienna; that Mr. Poulteney, Envoy in Denmark, is to succeed his lordship at Berlin."—*Luttrell's Diary.*

* *Collins' Peerage*, Article, Earl of Strafford, of Stainborough.

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13 Mr. Grigson, Butler.
14 Christian, Butler's Boy.
15 Robin Reed,
16 Hanse George,
17 Christopher Wartman, } Grooms of the Chamber.
18 Nanny, Washmaid.
19 Mary, Housemaid.

THE KITCHEN.

20 Mr. Evermont, Master Cook.
21 Mons. St. Leger, Second Cook.
22 George, Under Cook.
23 Dutch Mary, Cook's Maid.
24 John, Kitchen Boy.
25 French Gardener.
26 Margeretta, Housemaid.

THE STABLES.

27 Mons. Barton, Equerry.
6 Pages.
2 Porters.
3 Running Footmen.
20 Footmen.
3 Coachmen, including Peter with the 8 Crown horses; Ephraim, with the 8 bay horses; and — with the 6 light brown horses.
4 Postillions."

Lord Raby had the same year credential letters to the Imperial Court, to which the Queen had a desire to remove him, to have his services there; but at the pressing desire of the King of Prussia he was continued Ambassador-Extraordinary for some time longer at that court.

Lord Raby, although so much engrossed in military and

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state affairs, occasionally made flying visits to England, and visited his Yorkshire estates. He always seems to have had a strong desire to settle himself near to Wentworth, the seat of his illustrious ancestor, and for this purpose he purchased, in 1708, through his confidential agent, Captain Ellison, the Stainborough estate, of Henry Cutler, for about £14,000, and this formed the nucleus of his property in this district. We find his lordship writing the following letter from Berlin, to Mr. Bromley, his agent, at Wakefield :—

"I thank you for your care in my absence of my business, and have but just now received your favour of the 18th of February, which gives me an account of Sir Jarvis Cutler's estate, which according to the account you give me I should be most pleas'd to buy, for 'tis just what I want, and the sum I would lay out—so pray if you are assured of the title agree for it, and give money in hand to secure the purchase, and contract immediately for it. For many reasons I would buy it, for I would willingly fix in Yorkshire, therefore, I would give five or six hundred pounds more for that estate than any other; therefore, tho' if it should be sold already, see if for five or six hundred pounds more, I might not get it from the new purchaser. You say it will be sold worth money, and the buildings into the bargain. I would give twenty, nay two-and-twenty or more years purchase for such an estate, and should be very sorry should I lose this purchase by my answer coming too late. As for making bricks, etc., at Ashby, I will let all that matter alone till I have your answer about this estate. I have desired leave already to take a turn into England about it, and so shall be much disappointed to lose that purchase. Pray send me your answer forthwith.—I am, etc., RABY."

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Mr. Francis Ellison on March 15th, and April 13th, 1708-9 writes to Lord Raby about "Sir Jarvis Cutler's estate" which, he says, "I know stands very pleasantly upon ye side of a hill, and is as new and pretty a seate as any I know in yt countrey. So I have writt to Mr. Bromley to see if he can contract on terms till yr answer comes; but it is odd he sends noe price. . . . . However, in answer about ye estate I have writt all I can about it, and have as yet noe answer as to ye place. I am not very well acquainted with it, but it is about four miles from Woodhouse—stands upon a fine hill, and overlooks Woodhouse, it being a very fine prospect. I take ye house not to have been built above 30 or 35 years, and to ye best of my memory takes such a form as Lady Humble's house, and tho' upon a hill there is indifferent good ponds, and I think ye offices are new, and good stables, for Sir Jarvis Cutler kept a pack of fox dogs, and was a famous hunter, I remember, 30 years ago. He ran himself in debt by building and making all things fine—the park had deare—I believe it was not very large, but I have almost forgot it, being 30 years since I was there. Who has ye selling of it I have not heard, but I wish it may faule to yr excellency to be ye purchaser, for I know you will like it, which made me write to Mr. Bromley to secure it if possible ye same post. I sent yr excellency his letter about it, for in my opinion I doe not remember a prettyer seate. I doe not know ye name of ye seate—nor what sort of land it is, but know there was a pretty sprinkling of trees about ye house." Writing again to His Excellency May 11th, 1708, Mr. Ellison says:—"I have got a particular of ye estate, but to my surprise Mr. Bromley has not agreed for it yet; he says Mr. Cutler expects to see you down. I

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have writt to him again to fix ye bargain, for by dyscription it will more and more please you. I would not send ye dyscription and particular for feare it should miss you; which I shall leave with my lady, being I am engaged to be at our election ye 19th. I shall not goe out of town till two or three days before, and I shall be up ye 23rd, when I hope, at furthest, to waite upon your excelleney."

His lordship, however, completed the purchase of this domain,* and he had no sooner done so than he began to

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* "Ye 29th June 1708.

"Minutes of an Agreement then made between the Right Honble Thomas Lord Raby of the one part and Henry Cutler of Stainburgh in the county of York Esq. of ye other part concerning the purchase of the Mannor of Stainburgh and other lands and farms contained in a particular hereunto annex't delivered by the said Henry Cutler to the said Lord Raby.

"*Impris* the said Lord Raby doth agree and undertake to pay to the said Henry Cutler the sum of fourteen thousand one hundred and fifty pounds of lawful money of Great Britain for the purchase of the said Mannor of Stainburgh and the lands and heriditaments in the said particular as soon as the said Henry Cutler shall make the said Lord Raby and his heirs a clear estate of inheritance of the said Mannor & premises. In consideration whereof the said Henry Cutler doth covenant promise and agree to & with the said Lord Raby to make the said Lord Raby a good and clear Estate of inheritance in fee simple on or before the first day of August next ensuing the date of these presents of all that the said Mannor of Stainburgh and all other lands tenements and heriditaments contained in the schedule or particular hereunto annext. And in earnest of the said purchase and in part of the said purchase money the said Lord Raby paid the said Henry Cutler five guineas of gold. The said Henry Cutler doth also promise the said Lord Raby that he will not kill or destroy any of the deer or faunes in the paddock or park adjoining to the said mansion-house called Stainburgh Hall, and saith that there are now in the said park or paddock fifty head of deer, and nine young deer called faunes which the said Henry Cutler doth promise to take care of till he convey the said

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expend large sums of money upon it in making improvements suitable to his growing dignity and improved circumstances. To the large and substantial residence of

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Mannor and premises to the said Lord Raby and his heirs and at that time to put the said Lord Raby or his agent into possession of the said park & deer.

"And whereas Mrs. Ellen Cutler deceased did by her will give certain lands in Leeming in the County of York to be bestowed for the maintenance of a curate or chaplain that should officiate in the chapel at Stainburgh or to ye curate at Barnsley as the said Henry Cutler's ancestors and their heirs should think fit. The said Henry Cutler doth further promise to transfer all his power of disposing of the profits of the said lands to the said Lord Raby and his heirs that the said Lord Raby may settle it upon the chapel at Stainburgh only, with all the powers rights and privileges belonging to the same as the Counsel of the said Lord Raby shall advise. It is further agreed between the said parties that all out rents and other out payments that were due out of the said premises before the twenty fourth day of this instant June shall be paid by the said Henry Cutler & all that become due after that date shall be paid by the said Lord Raby. [Up to this point in the agreement, the writing is that of Peter Wentworth, Lord Raby's brother, the remainder is written by Capt. John Powell, Lord Raby's agent.]

"And the said Henry Cutler doth also promise to deliver the said Lord Raby or his agent as soon as Mr. Carrington returns from London a survey of the estate he agrees to sell to the said Lord Raby & also all Court Rolls and all other deeds and writings which do in any way concern the premises or any part thereof. The parties have hereunto set their names the day & year first above written."

"Raby
"Hen. Cutler.

"Witness
"Ri Wilton
"J Bromley."

The following is a copy of the schedule annexed :—

"A Yearly Rentall of the Estate of Henry Cutler Esq. Stainburgh Hall & Demeans, £200; William Beckett, £47; Thomas Dickinson, £9 7. 0; Matthew Lee, £3 17. 6; Daniel Silverwood, £6 14. 0; Hen.

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the Cutlers he at once began to make such additions as would make it vie in importance and splendour with Wentworth Woodhouse, the seat of his ancestors, and now

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Spencer, £12 0. 0; John Copley, £4 18. 0; Robert Roe, £4 8. 6; Benjamin Green, £4 10. 0; John Tompson, £8 9. 0; John Crawshaw, £10 3. 9; John Walton, £10 3. 9; John Crowder, £10 3. 0; Jonas Nortcliffe, £8 14. 3; James Beardshall, £11 16. 0; William Walker, £20 0. 0; Jonathan West, £34 0. 0; Mr. Dickson, £21 0. 0; Jonathan Downend, £57 14. 0; Edward Snowden, £67 10. 0; Tho: Wood, £15 0. 0; John Bell, £3 6. 0; Lawrence Kenidy, £1 3. 0; Mrs. Hargrave, £4 10. 0; Robert Downing, £9 4. 0; Stainburgh Law and Woods, £70 0. 0; Mrs. Hacket, £4 0. 0; Cottages—John Wood, £0 15. 0; Andrew Rawdrey, £0 10. 0; Tho. Smith, £0 10 0; Richard Turton, £0 5. 0; Sum Total £661. 6. 9.

"THE RIGHT HONBLE. LORD RABY'S BILL UPON HIS LORDSHIP'S PURCHASE OF STAYNBROUGH:—

	£	s.	d.
"Drawing a long abstract of the Title for Mr. P. William's perusall; and after the Deeds of Purchase were Executed, severall other deeds relating to the Title were sent me by Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Carrington, some whereof I had not till 4 or 5 months after my Lord left England, wch put me to the trouble of making a new abstract longer than the other, which new abstract I copyed fair to be kept with ye title deeds. (Weeke's time)	02	10	00
"Drawing the severall Draughts	01	10	00
"ffor Ingrossing the Lease for a year, and the Release from Henry and John Cutler to the Lord Raby	03	00	00
"ffor Ingrossing the Bargaine and Sale to be Inrolled in Chancery to the Lord Raby from Henry and John Cutler	01	00	00
"Acknowledging of it before the Master	00	05	00
"Paid for Inrolling of it	01	10	06
"ffee in examining and attending	00	03	04
"ffor Ingrossing the Bargaine and Sale to be Inrolled in Yorkshire	00	10	00

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of his obnoxious relative, Mr. Watson Wentworth, only some five miles distant. It will be seen from the following letter, which contains some interesting particulars, that Lord Raby was not satisfied with his position abroad. It is addressed to General Cadogan from Berlin, 16th February, 1709.* "... I need not remind you of my misfortune of growing old in a foreign country, being in inaction when all the world are in arms and seeking honour; and that I have served constantly from 16 years of age in the army, and have lost 3 brothers ..... I need not either tell you that my coming hither was at the Duke of Marlborough's request, nor that his Grace did not only promise, but swore to me he would take care it should be to my

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"ffor Ingrossing the Assignment of ye 500 years to Captain Ellison, in trust for my Lord	01	10	00
"ffor making attested Copyes of severall Deeds, Wills, and Writings, the original remaining in Mr. Cutler's hands	02	00	00
"Payd for Searching at ye Chappell of ye Rolls for an antient Deed	00	01	00
"ffee for same.....	00	03	04
"ffor Stamp Duty and Parchment	01	12	06
"Attending Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Silvester at their houses severall times.	00	13	04
"Coach hire to ye Cockpit with ye Writings.	00	01	00
	£16	10	00

"16 Feb., 1708.

"Received of Mr. Ellison, ye summe of Sixteen Pounds Ten Shillings in full of the Contents of this Bill.

"P. W. WILLIAMS."

Indorsed—

"Ye 18th Feb., 1708. Lord Raby paid Mr. Williams for making Deeds, &c., relating to Mr. Cutler's Estate, £16 10s. 00d."

* "*The Wentworth Papers*," pp. 20-3.

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advantage; and if after I had been here three years I desired it, I might return again to the army. . . . This he told me in the House of Lords, and gave me a week's time to consider whether I would come hither or no, and pressed me again to it, before I took the resolution. He presented me to the Queen, saying more in my favour than I deserved . . . . . I need not repeat what passed when I was two years ago in the army, nor how my staying there with his Grace's approbation had like to turn to my greatest misfortune. You know all the intrigues that passed at that time concerning me, and tho' great pains had been taken here as well as in England, to show me that my Lord Duke was entirely for removing me from this Court, yet I can protest to you I was so far from taking it ill, that considering the information he had from hence and from Holland, that I thought him extremely in the right had things been as they were represented to him. . . . . Since I returned from England I have complained to him (the Duke) that I could not obtain one distinguishing mark of Her Majesty's approbation of my services, though she received me the kindliest imaginable, and gave me all the assurances I could desire of her satisfaction and inclination to recompense me. The two things I desired were indeed but feathers, and one a sort of right, which was to be a Privy Councillor, which no Ambassador was ever refused; and tho' both the Queen and Lord Treasurer promised it me when the Embassy was ended, yet I own I had much rather it had been done then, which was all I writ to the Duke about that matter . . . . . but the other, of being made Earl of Strafford, is what a word's speaking may get done for me now, and with being the head of the

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Wentworth family, who has so much deserved the keeping of that title in it, I have a very good pretension to ask it; since the Duke's only objection formerly was that I had not estate eno' to support it, and that I have now £4000 a year of my own, I think this is no more an objection. Nay, I have bought a pretty estate very nigh him who the late Lord Strafford made his heir, which with what I had before in that county, I have almost as much land in Yorkshire as he has, and am sure I have a much better interest in that county; nor can I think the consideration of him can be any bar to me, since he can have no pretensions like mine, and is one that has been and ever will be against the court and the ministry, let them do what they can for him . . .

"I know 'tis thought by many that I have a fine post here, but I am weary of it. I grow old in a strange country, and am forgot by my friends in England; besides, I lose my interest in the House of Lords, where I might say, without vanity, I had more interest when I came away than any young lord in England. And what do I get here? I spend more than the Queen's pay, and see no prospect of getting out honourably. My Lord Duke takes no notice of designing me one of the Plenipotentiaries at the general peace to which I have all the right imaginable. In England all the good places are given as soon as they fall, that an absent man can get nothing; and in the Army the Duke seems not inclined to let me come again, tho' I would subscribe to anything he should propose, if he would let me serve again. Here I want all your friendship, for God's sake, counsel me what I shall do. I would not be importunate to my Lord Duke, and I would not live in despair. Let my Lord but say whether he ever thinks of me, or what he designs to do

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for me, how long he would have me continue here, and if he thinks me so arrantly good for nothing that I never could be able to make any figure in my own country, and whether amongst so many servants so great a man as he must have, I may not be thought capable to be one. England is upon such a foot that the greatest and best men can't have too many friends. My great-uncle, my Lord Strafford, left it as a maxim to our family, that an Englishman can't have too many friends, and that people in power should not disoblige the least groom, since no man can tell how things may turn, for, said he, at the time of his trial, Lord, how many do I see who I thought most insignificant, who now *sits* the heaviest upon me . . . I must conclude with protesting that if I am so unfortunate as that at last I must find myself baulked of all my hopes, after spending my youth, hazarding daily my life, losing my brothers and not bettering my fortune by the service, I can retire contentedly, and live upon what my birth gave me, even if I should lose what the late King, my great and glorious master, gave me; and, pray believe me, the uncertainty of my circumstances now makes me more uneasy than the being reduced to live at last upon what I have can make me then, since I am satisfied I have not merited either distrust or neglect from any one, especially from my Lord Duke of Marlborough, whom I have ever truly loved and honoured."

Although always in such high favour with the Queen, Lord Raby had many enemies. He was a bitter political opponent of the Duke of Marlborough, and we are told by Coxe, in his *Life of Marlborough*, that his Grace "had long lamented the violence and indiscretion of his lordship, whose

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captious spirit had been to him a perpetual source of disquietude."

In a letter from the Duke of Marlborough to his Duchess, dated June 13th, 1709, he says: "As to what you write as to 74 (Lord Raby) being impertinent is very true, but if he were not named it would be unjust, and I think there will be very little honour since he must continue where he is, and not sign. I know him to be impertinent and insignificant; but if he should be left out it would look like malice, and that should be avoided." *

"Marlborough paid a visit to the King of Prussia, where his presence, it is said, was peculiarly necessary, to counteract the petty intrigues of Lord Raby, who not only endeavoured to sway the Prussian Court, but imprudently threw reflections on the conduct of the ministers attached to England, by representing them as sacrificing the interests of Prussia to gratify the Duke of Marlborough. It would have been easy to procure the recall of a minister who was personally disagreeable to the King, and disliked by the Court, but it was difficult to fill his place, as well from his connections and interest with the Grand Chamberlain, as from the rank and diplomatic abilities and favour with his Sovereign." . . . . "But Marlborough overlooked his own complaints, and laboured to restore Lord Raby to such

* "The Duke of Marlborough to Lord Godolphin. May 31, 1709. 'Mr. de Cardonnel tells me that Lord Raby is so very desirous of having his name in the treaty of peace that he will be contented to stay in Berlin, and consequently have no equipage money. I have bid him (de Cardonnell) write to him, so that he may explain himself, and if it cost the Queen nothing, he being the only ambassador, I think his name should be inserted, though he is a very coxcomb.'"—*Bolingbroke's Correspondence*, Vol. ii., pp. 322-3.

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a cordiality with those whom he had offended, as might enable him to fulfil the object of his mission; and although he could not obliterate, he suspended the effects of their mutual jealousies. He also, we are told, prevailed on the King to desist from his instances for the removal of so obnoxious a minister."*

"The interference of Marlborough," the same writer continues, "could alone obviate the mischiefs arising from this combination of jarring interests, and his interposition was attended with the usual effect. A single letter from him appeared to pacify the King of Prussia; while the Chamberlain and his lady either obtained a partial gratification, or yielded to the change of sentiment which they perceived in their Sovereign. Lord Raby was awed by that master spirit which habit had taught him to respect, and we find his letters soon resuming the language of compliment and adulation."

Lord Raby's embassy at Berlin terminated in March, 1711, on his appointment as Lord Townshend's successor in the similar but much more important capacity at the Hague. Bolingbroke, writing to Mr. Drummond, February 9th, in that year, says:—"My Lord Raby must succeed him. The Queen had promised to call that minister to this employment; and she does not think fit to give him the mortification of a disappointment. The warmth which you apprehend in him, we will take care to cool; and upon the whole matter, you will find him to be the best we could at present send you." A letter from Bolingbroke to the same person a little later says:—"I hope my Lord Raby will succeed

* *Coxe's Life of Marlborough*, Vol. iii., p. 189.

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very well amongst you; for though I enter into the objections made to his character, yet, he will find, that to please here, he must please on your side, and he is no bad courtier. Some cases may happen where it will be reasonable and even necessary for him to take a little more upon him than has usually been practised by our ministers at the Hague, but the cases will be few, and he will have strict orders in them."*

Referring to the differences between the Duke of Marlborough and Lord Raby, Bolingbroke, writing to Lord Raby, on the 23rd March, 1710 (*Bolingbroke's Correspondence*, p. 127), says:—"Your Excellency was pleased to mention in one of your former letters, as I remember, your conduct towards the Duke of Marlborough, upon which I will presume to acquaint you that my opinion is that you should live with him in the most friendly manner, and in the best concert. He has taken the ply of submitting with the utmost resignation to the Queen, and of re-establishing a confidence with those who are now in her service. Your Excellency and he will necessarily act in several matters jointly, and her Majesty's service will require a constant correspondence between you; after all this, whatever caution is proper to be observed, I am sure your Excellency will not be wanting in." Again, April 27th, 1710, Bolingbroke writes: "I am neither surprised at your Excellency's wading through the difficulties which you met with on your first entrance upon business at the Hague, nor at the endeavours of the Duke of Marlborough and my Lord Townshend to

* *Letters and Correspondence, Public and Private, of Henry St. John, Viscount Bolingbroke*, Vol. i., pp. 85-9.

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expose you to as many as they could. You have in this, my Lord, met with no other fate than the Queen our mistress has; and her administration would never have supported itself against all the industry, and all the malice which has been put in practice, without that resolution and firmness of mind which she has shown, and her servants too by her example."*

The Treaty of Peace being in agitation, Lord Raby was sent for to England to concert measures relating thereto; † and on his arrival, was sworn in the Privy Council, on June 14th, 1711.

And Her Majesty taking into consideration his great merits and services, was pleased to advance him to the dignities of Earl and Viscount, by the style and title of Earl of Strafford,‡ Viscount Wentworth, of Wentworth Woodhouse, and of Stainborough, with remainder to his brother,

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* *Bolingbroke's Correspondence*, Vol. i., p. 177.

Bolingbroke, writing to Mr. Drummond, May 15, 1711 (*Correspondence*, Vol. i., pp. 206-7), says: "My Lord Ambassador Raby is a very good man, but he has the misfortune of being a little too apt to take umbrage and to be punctilious. I hope, however, the cross accident you speak of sticks no longer with him." Writing a little later, he says: "I will not fail to observe the caution you gave me as to Lord Raby, whose failings I know, as well as his good qualities."

† "March 3rd, 1710-11. Letters from the Hague state that the Duke of Marlborough and Lord Orrery arrived there the 4th; and the Lord Townshend was preparing to return home, the Lord Raby being to succeed him.—1711. Mail advices from Berlin on the 24th March states that the Lord Raby was gone thence for Holland, having been first presented with a sword from the King of Prussia, set with diamonds, worth 15,000 crowns."—*Luttrell's Diary.*

‡ His mother, Lady Wentworth, writing to him February 1st, 1710, says:—"I was told that Wentworth Watson was endevoring to bye the Earldom of Strafforde, sure her Majesty will not grant it to any but

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Peter Wentworth, Esq.,* and his issue male, by letters patent, bearing date September 4th, 1711. The preamble to the patent reciting his services is as follows :—

"When we consider what a great incitement it is to men, truly noble, to pursue virtue, that the memory of their good actions should be honoured with the splendor of titles, we could not but give these testimonies of our approbation to the merits of our very faithful and beloved counsellor Thomas Lord Raby, which from the equity of a Prince, who is the favourer of good men, might seem agreeable to the brightness of the approved loyalty of his ancestors, and his own

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you." Again January 16th, 1711 :—"Sure now you will gett sombody to speak to the Queen to make you Earl of Strafford; I would have it to hender Watson from it—God forgive me—now thear syde is out will be the time to get it."—*Wentworth Papers*, pp. 106-7.

* Peter Wentworth to Lord Raby, May 29, 1711. "In a week or ten days I hope I may wish you joy of the Earldome of Strafford, and as you have more goodness than most brothers usually have, I shall venture to put you in mind that if you continue in the mind you some time ago sent me word you were, that in default of your issue, you would have me and my heirs inserted in the patent if I desired it; I then answer'd you tho' 'twas an affair of that nature wch was not decent for me to solicite you in, yet when offer'd by you, not to be refused by me, but accepted of with all due gratitude for so perticular a mark of your esteem, and that I ought to be far from repining at my fate of being a younger brother, but to rejoice to be preceded by one who has so great and noble a soul as to think of his family and posterity in its largest extent. May you be remembered with veneration by late posterity, who has retrieved an honour, and estate to support it, when the late Earle shall be held in detestation by them. My Lord Berkley told me a Sunday he wou'd write to you this post that you might not be guilty thro' advertancy of the like omission of the great Earle of Strafford, who by not procuring the Earldome to descend as well as the Barony to his collateral line, has occation'd you the trouble of a solicitation for it. I told his lordship you had the goodness to think of this yourself,

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peculiar glory, which he hath acquired both at home and abroad; we gratefully call to mind his renowned great uncle, the noble Earl of Strafford, who, being of a lively genius in council, and courageous in arms, and as it were the strongest support to the royal dignity of our grandfather, of most glorious memory, was taken off by the false and unjust accusations of wicked men, but afterwards restored to the glory and immortal nobleness of his name, by a very honourable vote of the English Parliament, when by a solemn order they acquitted that very deserving gentleman of the crimes preferred against him, without precedent, in a manner never heard of before; and justly thought, that whatever was so injuriously proceeded against him ought to be erased and obliterated out of the public records. Since

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and mention'd it some time ago to me, but however he said now was the time for you to have it mov'd to the Queen, or else when the patent was drawn 'twou'd be too late. But to-day I saw my Lord Berkley and he told me he heard you was coming over so wou'd not trouble you with a letter, but advised me to tell you as his opinion you shou'd by no means neglect this opportunity of perpetuating the honour to your family. I know 'tis not every age that can produce so great a man as yourself, as to extricate a family out of difficultys, an omission and a capricious humour had laid them under, therefore it behoves me not to neglect to remind you to write by the first post to Mr. St. John or the Duke of Shrewsbury that you desire the title may be intail'd upon your collateral line. I am the more instant in desiring this, because the Queen by that request may see you have a perticular esteem and friendship for me, and by that means I may be more regarded by her, and I do assure you I have greater views and hopes from thence than from any prospect of succeeding you in your honours."—*The Wentworth Papers, by J. J. Cartwright, Esq., M.A.*, p. 202.

On the death of William Earl of Strafford in 1791, Peter's grandson, Frederick Wentworth, of Henbury, in Dorsetshire, succeeded to the title, which became extinct on his death, without issue, in 1799.

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the male issue of that excellent man has been extinguished, it was pleasing to us, notwithsfanding, to see his virtue revive in one of the same blood. And therefore we have thought fit to advance the Lord Raby, who is not more allied in blood than in like merit, to the same dignity of titles; for if we consider him as one experienced in the arts of peace and war, he will be thought, by no means, undeserving of so great an honour; bred up a soldier, almost from his very childhood, he has gained the reputation of an extraordinary courage, through all the scenes of the fatigues and dangers in the camp; and being now placed in the high station of lieutenant-general of our forces, seems to have made an easy step to the height of preliminary preferment; but since we have called him thence to the management of affairs of State, we have found him, by experience, no less ready for his high ability in civil employment, than for his valour in arms. First, at the desire of the King of Prussia, we sent him to the Court of Berlin, with the character of our envoy-extraordinary; in which station he behaved himself for several years with such signal applause that we thought fit to honour him with the title of our Ambassador-Extraordinary to the same king. We had also determined him to take care of our affairs in the august court of the King of the Romans; but the King of Prussia a second time requesting his presence, we were unwilling to call him from thence, where he was so very useful to us, and peculiarly acceptable to the said Prince: but since, for eight years past, he has happily devoted himself to the common interest of us, and all the confederates, with the utmost fidelity and dexterity; the most important concerns of the armies, and difficult affairs of the Christian

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world, required us to send to the Hague a gentleman so well qualified for so great a province: Wherefore we ordered him to go to the High and Mighty Lords the States-General of the United Provinces, in the quality of our Ambassador-Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, which post he has begun to manage with double penetration and prudence; and especially after the death of Joseph, at that time Emperor, he entered upon such measures, according to his usual sagacity, with the said States-General, as were very suitable to the present posture of affairs, and agreeable to our mind. Therefore, that he may enjoy some monuments of our royal favour, as the reward of a life employed for the good of his country, and all Europe, and which may be an incentive to his future race of glory: "Know ye, &c."*

During the visit of his lordship to England, and immediately after being created Earl of Strafford, he married, on the 6th September, Anne, daughter and heiress of Sir Henry Johnson, of Bradenham, in the county of Bucks, Knt., also of Toddington, in Bedfordshire, and of Frestone Hall, in

* "May 22, 1712. Thomas Lord Raby being, by Letters Patent, created Viscount Wentworth and Earl of Strafford, was this day, in his robes, introduced, between the Lord Treasurer and the Lord Steward (also in their robes); the Lord Great Chamberlain, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, and Clarencieux, officiating for Garter King at Arms, carrying the said Letters Patent, preceding.

"His Lordship presented the same to the Lord Keeper, on his knee, at the woolsack, who delivered them to the Clerk, and the same were read at the table.

"His Writ of Summons was also read.

"Then his lordship was placed on the lower end of the Earls' Bench, and came to the table, and took the Oaths, and made and subscribed the Oath of Abjuration, pursuant to the Statutes."—*Journal of the House of Lords*, vol. xix. p. 457.

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Suffolk.* She was an only daughter, and by this marriage his lordship acquired great wealth. Dean Swift has a notice of the marriage in his *Journal to Stella*:—"Sept. 3rd, 1711. Lord Raby, who is Earl of Strafford, is on Thursday to marry a namesake of Stella, the daughter of Sir H. Johnson

* "It is curious to notice that although many letters of his mother, and of other relatives and friends, are filled with schemes for an advantageous marriage of Lord Strafford, no reference is found in any of them to the particular match he made. So quietly was the matter settled, that his niece, Lady Bellew, writing her congratulations on his Earldom, on July 16, adds: 'I hear you are going to be married to Lady Betty Hastings, a great fortune. I wish it were true, and all the happiness this world can afford.' . . . . . Of Lady Strafford's amiable and engaging qualities few could doubt who had had the opportunity to read through her numerous letters to her husband, which have been so carefully preserved; for Lord Strafford's diplomatic labours compelled him and his wife to be much apart in the early years of their married life, and a regular correspondence between them was a necessary consequence.."—*The Wentworth Papers*, pp. 27—30.

"There would at one time seem to have been some prospect of a match between Lord Strafford's sister, Betty, and Sir William Wentworth, of Bretton. Writing from St. James's Square, April 15, 1712, Lady Strafford says:—'I'm sure you would be much diverted if you did but see how earnest Lady Wentworth is about getting Sir William Wentworth for Sister Betty; and Lady W—— call'd me up in a corner to beg of me to commend him to sister Betty, and she says she makes no doubt but 'twill doe, for his eyes she says sparkled mightly at the sight of sister Betty; and she is as grave when she speakes of him, and in her thoughts the match is already made up.' Lady Strafford, on the same subject. April 25, says: 'Sir W. Wentworth I hear made a great Ball at his lodgings last Monday. I think Lady W—— has don thinking of him for sis. Betty.' And, on May 2nd: 'Sir William Wentworth brought his sister to me; she is the head taller than sis. Betty and the awkwardest creature I ever see. . . . I am now at the Cock Pitt at cards, and Lady Wentworth is the happyest creature in the world, for Sir W. Wentworth is here and played at cards with sis. Betty and brother W. and I.'"—*Ibid.*, p. 285.

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in the City; he has three score thousand pounds with her, ready money, beside the rest at her father's death." She certainly brought him, on her father's death, some valuable estates, including Freston, Suffolk, and the borough of Aldborough in that county, which had been represented in Parliament by the Johnsons for many years.

Sir Henry Johnson, who is described as a rich ship-builder, of Poplar, was twice married. His first wife was Anne, daughter of Sir Hugh Smithson, of Stanwick, in Yorkshire, by whom he had the above daughter, who married Lord Strafford. Sir Henry married, secondly, Martha, only daughter of Lord Lovelace, who afterwards became Baroness Wentworth, of Nettlestead. She was present at the coronation of Queen Anne, and was granddaughter of Lord Wentworth, son of the Earl of Cleveland, whose title had become extinct. On the 2nd April, 1702, Lady Johnson, it is stated in *Luttrell's Diary*, was heard by her counsel in the House of Peers as to her right to the Barony of Wentworth, when her claim was allowed, and she was declared a Baroness of England.* One of her immediate predecessors in the Barony was Henrietta Wentworth,

* Henrietta Maria Baroness Wentworth was succeeded in the Barony of Wentworth by her aunt, Anne Wentworth, who had married John, second Lord Lovelace. Their only son, John, Lord Lovelace, died before his mother; but their daughter, Martha Lovelace, succeeded her grandmother as Baroness Wentworth in 1702. She became the second wife of Sir Henry Johnson, and on her death, in 1745, the Barony of Wentworth passed to her first cousin twice removed, Sir Edward Noel, whose descendant, Anna Isabella, only daughter of Sir Ralph Milbanke, and widow of Lord Byron, the poet, succeeded to the Barony, and died in 1860. The poet's only daughter, Augusta Ada Byron, married, in 1825, William, Lord Lovelace.

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granddaughter of the last Earl of Cleveland, and mistress to the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth, with whom she resided in the mansion at Toddington, and where two rooms were long afterwards pointed out as "the Duke's and my lady's parlour." *

It will thus be seen that Sir Henry Johnson allied himself by his second marriage with the representative of the family of Wentworth, Earls of Cleveland, the most highly ennobled branch of the Wentworth family, whilst Sir Henry's only daughter married Lord Strafford, the direct representative of the male line of Wentworth Woodhouse; and by this alliance Lord Strafford eventually became possessed of the

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* Macaulay (*History of England*, vol. i., pp. 531-2) says:—"The Duke of Monmouth retired to Brussels, accompanied by Henrietta Wentworth, Baroness Wentworth, of Nettlestead, a damsel of high rank and ample fortune, who loved him passionately, who had sacrificed for his sake her maiden honour and the hope of a splendid alliance, who had followed him into exile, and whom he believed to be his wife in the sight of heaven. Under the soothing influence of female friendship his lacerated mind healed fast. . . . It is said, too, that he was induced to quit his retirement by the same powerful influence which had made that retirement delightful. Lady Wentworth wished to see him a king. Her rents, her diamonds, her credit, were put at his disposal. Monmouth's judgment was not convinced, but he had not firmness to resist such solicitations." . . . . . "Yet a few months," continues Macaulay, "and the quiet village of Toddington witnessed a still sadder funeral. Near that village stood an ancient and stately hall, the seat of the Wentworths. The transept of the church had long been their burial place. To that burial place, in the spring that followed the death of Monmouth, was borne the coffin of the young Baroness Wentworth of Nettlestead. Her family reared a sumptuous mausoleum over her remains; but a less costly memorial of her was long contemplated with far deeper interest. Her name, carved by the hand of him whom she loved too well, was, a few years ago, still discernible on a tree in the adjoining park."

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Toddington and other estates; and Toddington Church, a handsome Gothic structure, which contains some rich memorials of the family of Wentworth, he chose as the place of sepulture for his family. Among the memorials in the church is a costly monument to the memory of Lady Henrietta Wentworth, mentioned above, who died in 1686, and which was erected at a cost of £2,000; and another, equally magnificent, to the memory of Lady Maria Wentworth, who died at the early age of eighteen, in the year 1632.*

* J. P., writing to the *Topographer*, 30th June, 1790 (Vol. iii. pp. 59-63) says: "A farm-house is the only remains of a noble mansion built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Lord Cheyne, of Toddington. The manor now belongs to the Earl of Strafford. The house which Lord Strafford had in right of his mother, the heiress of Sir Henry Johnson, he has lately pulled down and carried part of the materials to the repair of his house, at Boughton, in Northamptonshire. In the church are some curious monuments almost in ruins, the remains of exquisite workmanship.

"The following are the inscriptions on the coffins in the vault at Toddington, taken Feb. 25, 1785, when it was last opened:—

"'Lady Maria Wentworth, daughter of Thomas, Earl of Cleveland, died January, 1632, aged 18 years.'

"'Here lieth the body of the Right Honourable Thomas, Lord Wentworth, Knight of the Bath, son and heir apparent to Thomas, Earl of Cleveland. He was in his lifetime Colonel of His Majesty's Guards, King Charles the Second, and Gentleman of his said Majesty's Bedchamber, and one of his said Majesty's most honourable Privy Council.'

"'Lady Lucy Wentworth, wife of Thomas, Earl of Cleveland, who deceased November 23, 1652.'

"'Thomas Lord Wentworth, Baron of Nettlested, Earl of Cleveland, Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Bedford, Captain of His Majesty's Band of Pensioners, Colonel of horse, and commander of a brigade of horse. He lived honourably and died piously, March the 4th, Ao. Di. 1667, aged 76.'

"'The Right Honourable Lady Henrietta Maria Baroness Wentworth, of Nettlested, died April 23, 1686.'

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The Duke of Marlborough congratulated Lord Strafford on his marriage and accession of honours in the following letter* :—"Camp, 10th Oct., 1711. My Lord, — The

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"'Ann, wife of Thomas, Earl of Cleveland, who died January the 16th, 1637.'

"'The Right Honourable Lady Philadelphia, Viscountess Wentworth, relict of Thomas Lord Viscount Wentworth, died May the 4th, Ao. Di. 1696.'

"'Sir Henry Johnson, Knight, died September the 29th, 1719, aged 60.'

"'The Right Honourable Thomas, Earl of Strafford, Viscount Went worth, died November 15th, 1739.'

"'The Right Honourable Anne, Countess Dowager of Strafford, wife of Thomas, Earl of Strafford, mother to William, Earl of Strafford, died September 19th, 1754, aged 70 years.'

"'Lady Anne Campbell, Countess of Strafford, died February the 7th, 1785, aged 65 years.'

"These inscriptions would be copied, on the interment of Lady Anne Campbell, Countess of Strafford, in 1785. To these, however, will have to be added at least the following, if not more :—William Earl of Strafford, 1791, and Lady Anne Conolly (Lord Strafford's sister), who was buried there Feb. 28, 1797."

Toddington went to Lord Strafford's sister, Lady Anne, who married the Right Hon. William Conolly, whose son sold it in 1806; and thus the manor of Toddington, which had been held by the family of Wentworth for generations, and connected with which were so many interesting associations, passed entirely out of the family. The purchaser was John Cooper, Esq., whose descendant, Major Cooper, is now (1880) the owner.

* *Letters and Dispatches of the Earl of Marlborough*, vol. v., p. 529.

"My Lord Strafford is married, honeymoon is, I suppose, over, and as a proof of my friendship to him, I will now endeavour in a few days to send him back."—*Bolingbroke's Correspondence* (Letter to Mr. Harrison, Lord Strafford's secretary), vol. i. p. 364.

"Armed with the preliminaries of peace, the Earl of Strafford, who had come over to England to be married, was within a few days sent back to his post at the Hague."—*England in Queen Anne's Reign, by Earl Stanhope*, p. 493.

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account we have had for some time past from England, of your hastening back, has prevented my troubling your lordship with my letters on that side. I send this now to the Hague, in hopes it may meet you there, and not to defer any longer my hearty congratulations, upon the accession of honour her Majesty has been pleased to favour you with. I must at the same time wish your lordship, and my Lady Strafford, a long continuance of joy and happiness together, and pray you will believe I shall always take a friendly part in whatever may tend to your lordship's satisfaction, being with truth, &c., Marlborough."

On his return to the Hague, Lord Strafford was supplied with voluminous instructions on the subject of the peace negotiations which were in progress, and in a letter to his lordship on the 17th Nov., 1711, Bolingbroke says: "It is impossible to do better than you have done, my lord, in every part of the difficult negotiation, and I heartily congratulate your Excellency on the success of your labours. The Queen commands me to say she is extremely satisfied with your Excellency's conduct." And again a few days afterwards he writes: "To tell you that the Queen is extremely satisfied with your conduct is no compliment, but strictly the truth. In the midst of clamour, as well as artifice, you have pursued her Majesty's instructions with that steadiness and vigour which only could have produced the compliance we now meet with." Lord Strafford having complained that confidence and information had been withheld from him, Bolingbroke replied, Dec. 4, 1711: "For God's sake, my lord, lay aside these jealousies, little omissions would be made sometimes by the greatest men, if they were involved in as much business as the Queen thinks

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fit to entrust to me, much more may I be allowed to mistake. The tenor of my conduct shall be always right; and as to your Excellency in particular, I am not conscious to myself that in the least article I have ever departed from the strictest friendship and the most unlimited confidence." . . . . "Now my pen is in my hand, I cannot forbear saying that I sincerely think this is the most important conjuncture that any prince has been in since the time that your Excellency's ancestor [the Earl of Strafford, beheaded in 1641] was attacked by the faction which begun with him, and did not conclude their tragedy even with his master. That king sealed the warrant of his own execution when he gave up his servant, and our mistress has no way of securing herself but exerting her power to protect her ministers who have rescued her from domestic bondage, and are going on to relieve her from foreign oppression. I will never deceive you, my Lord, I would not do it, even in the most pardonable, the most agreeable manner, by concealing real dangers, and giving false hopes." . . . "I wish your Excellency a long course of happy years; nature will allow you time, your fortune will afford you some ingredients, and your good understanding more; but nothing can complete the blessing except that peace which you are labouring to advance."*

Lord Strafford was not long at the Hague before he was again summoned to England, where he arrived on the 15th May, 1712, after which, having received instructions to go to the Army (though ambassador-extraordinary) he left

* *Letters and Correspondence of Bolingbroke*, vol. ii., pp. 74, 129, 130.

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London on June 23rd following, being ordered by the Queen, first to the Hague, to invite the States-General to join with Her Majesty in a cessation of arms, on the French giving up Dunkirk to the English. On their refusing to comply with the Queen's measures, he went, pursuant to his instructions, with a very few attendants (not staying for an escort) up to the Duke of Ormond, then encamped at Chateau Cambresis, and on his way thither was in some danger, being stopped and examined by several parties, as well French and Spaniards, as Dutch, Imperialists, etc.* Having executed his commission, by seeing the cessation of arms declared between the French and English, on Dunkirk being put into the Queen's hands, he returned to Utrecht, through Lisle, Tournay, Ostend, Bruges, Ghent, and Brussels, and had all the honours paid him as to a

* "About this time another circumstance happened at Utrecht, which was like to prove a new obstruction to the negotiation of peace. The Earl of Strafford had, by his lofty carriage, made himself very obnoxious to the Dutch, and it being given out that the Duke of Savoy had abandoned the Allies and agreed to a suspension of arms, some of the common people, in the night time, broke the windows both of the Marquis del Borgo, one of the Duke's Plenipotentiaries, and the Earl of Strafford; and as a further indignity to the Earl, they set up a wheel on the rails before his house, with a paper on it, on which was written the Dutch word Straff-art, alluding to the Earl's name, and implying that he deserved the punishment denoted by the wheel; the word 'Straffen' in Dutch signifying to punish, or chastise. This insult was highly resented by the British plenipotentiaries; but the magistrates of Utrecht having published a reward of 400 guilders to any one who should discover the authors of it, and that the name of the informer should be concealed, the British Court thought fit not to take any notice of the affront at this juncture, the rather because it was by many suspected that the French emissaries were at the bottom of this insult, in order to irritate the British nation against the Dutch."—*Tindal's Rapin*, 1733, vol. iv., p. 290.

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crowned head, as well by the Dutch as the others, being saluted by a triple discharge of cannon round the town as he passed, and by part of the several garrisons under arms to receive him. After having stayed two days at Brussels to give the necessary orders (the Catholic Netherlands being then equally under the administration of the Queen and States-General), he passed through Antwerp, where, on his arrival, he was saluted by discharges of cannon, and was met by the governor of the town, and carried to his palace, where he was most magnificently entertained. The magistrates waited on him in their formalities, made him a handsome speech, and presented him with several large flagons of wine, and other things, brought in by the burghers of the town and their under officers, in great numbers; and the next morning, on his departure, he was again saluted with a triple discharge of cannon round the town and ramparts, as at his entrance.

On his arrival at Utrecht, the negotiations for the treaty of peace were continued by his lordship, and the Lord Privy Seal (Dr. Robinson, then Bishop of Bristol, afterwards Bishop of London), with the several ministers of all the foreign powers of Europe, and being again sent for to England, he was, at a chapter held at Windsor, on October 26, 1712, elected a Knight-companion of the most noble Order of the Garter; but being again sent on her Majesty's service beyond the seas, was installed by proxy at Windsor, on August 4, following.* Whilst he was abroad he was

* Sir Jacob Banks, member for Minehead, a zealous Tory, acted as Lord Strafford's proxy on his installation as Knight of the Garter, and in one of Lady Strafford's letters she alludes to the matter, and said that 'if you had given Sir Jacob ten thousand pounds it would not have made him half so happy as being your proxy.'"

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highly esteemed by several foreign princes, and also by the Princess Sophia, Electress of Hanover, and mother of George the First, who often, with the Queen of Prussia, dined with his lordship at Berlin, and when absent kept up an almost continual correspondence with him by letters.* The Kings of Denmark and Poland, having an interview with the King of Prussia, those three Kings, with the Queen of Prussia, dined together at his lordship's, and made him a present of their portraits at full length, in one group, in commemoration of his having entertained three Kings and one Queen at the same time. This painting may be seen in the grand hall at Wentworth Castle. It bears an old legend :—" Given by these Kings to Thos. Earl of Strafford on their having all three dined together with him, when Lord Raby Ambassador Exn. at Berlin." They are depicted standing hand in hand, after the fashion of the Graces, in royal robes—ponderous figures standing among unlimited royal upholstery. In this life they were Frederick IV. of Denmark, Augustus of Poland, and Frederick William I. of Prussia. There union here is ominous, especially was it so for the second of these hard-featured royalties.

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* "The death of the Electress Sophia, of Hanover, made a considerable alteration in the state of parties in England, as well as in the situation of the Duke of Marlborough. Notwithstanding her advanced age of 84, she possessed, till the time of her death, an unusual degree of spirit and energy, saying that if she could but live to have 'Sophia, Queen of England,' engraven on her tomb she would die contented. She was more inclined to the Tories than the Whigs, held a confidential correspondence with the Earl of Strafford, and implicitly confided in the Duke of Marlborough, to whom she readily entrusted the fullest powers for the furtherance of her accession."—*Coxe's Marlborough*, vol. iii., p. 361.

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The Treaty of Peace was signed between two and three o'clock on Tuesday, the 31st March, 1713, the Lord Bishop of Bristol and the Earl of Strafford, ambassadors-extraordinary, being present. The ministers of the Duke of Savoy signed an hour afterwards. Then the assembly adjourned to the Earl of Strafford's house, where they all went to dinner; and about nine at night it was signed by the ministers of Portugal, by those of Prussia at eleven, and when it was near midnight by the States-General. On the 5th May the peace was proclaimed in the usual manner, but with louder acclamations and more extraordinary rejoicings of the people than had ever been remembered on a like occasion.* The terms of the treaty were at once sent to the Secretary of State in England (Lord Bolingbroke), who, in his reply to the Earl of Strafford, said: "You will easily imagine how very welcome my brother was, since he brought the peace for which every friend of the Queen and country was under the most eager expectation. I cannot express all I think of that indefatigable zeal and eminent sufficiency with which your lordship has carried on a negotiation, of which you first laid the foundation; may you long live and enjoy the honours which are your due and the blessings of a grateful people."†

Lord Strafford, although so much involved in affairs of State, paid several visits to England to look after his private affairs, and to the progress of his new building at Stainborough he looked forward with great interest.

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* *History of the Last Four Years of Queen Anne. Swift's Works*, vol. v., p. 229.

† *Bolingbroke to Strafford, Correspondence*, vol. ii. p. 357.

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As early as February, 1710, we find him writing the following letter to his relative, Sir William Wentworth, of Bretton, who had a little time before, when on his travels, paid him a short visit at Berlin * :—"Berlin, 25th February, 1710.—I am going on as hard as I can drive with my building [at Stainborough], and am at last persuaded to make it of brick and stone, as Hampton Court is, and which I am assured will look better than all stone, especially since my quarrys affords but little ones, tho' the ornamental ones for the face work is brought three miles, and I am assured is extream white and good; so the new front will be something like that of the Duke of Leeds at Keton [Kiveton], in our country. We talk much of peace; if it is made I shall soon see you in Yorkshire, or be there before you. I have already brew'd very good aile wch. is in my cellars, so they are not empty; and I am resolved to turn arrant country gentleman, and try to gain my neighbours by looking up my great dogs, opening my cellars, and having no inn by my house." Speaking of his pictures, at a later date, he says: "I have great credit by them, and find I have not thrown my money away; they are all designed, I do assure you, for Yorkshire, and I hope to have a better collection than Mr. Watson [Wentworth] has.† Lord Raby, however,

* *The Strafford Papers, Add. MSS.*, 22,229, fol. 91.

† Writing to his aunt, Lady Bathurst, in 1709, Lord Raby says:—"I set out for Italy, and overran all that glorious agreeable country in two months' time. I was above six weeks sick in bed in Rome of a violent fever I got by the excessive heats in travelling thither in the dog days." He bought there a great number of pictures, "which, though it cost me a great deal, yet it is a furniture for me and my posterity. I have about 30 pictures, most part originals by the best hands or the copies by good painters after the best pictures in Rome, and had I had time there

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changed his mind with respect to his new building, and had it built all of stone, and not brick and stone, as he at first contemplated. A love of the fine arts was not, however, a prominent trait in Sir William's character; indeed, he writes he has no money to buy them with, and "I shall be well content with the walls of Bretton just as they are, so that I have but a good glass of ale or beer to make my friends welcome with when they honour me with their company."

Lady Strafford, on her marriage, accompanied her lord to the Hague, and there, with her great charms and many accomplishments, ably presided over his large establishment. She had many virtues, and won the love of all with whom she came in contact. The following extracts from a letter addressed by her ladyship from the Hague on the 21st Nov., 1713, to Lord Strafford, who was then absent in

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I should have ruined myself with buying up such sort of curiosities."—Peter Wentworth to Lord Raby, London, March 15, 1709. . . "I went t'other day to make a visset to Lady Bathurst, where I mett my mother and she desir'd I wou'd show your Plans. She stood amased at it, & said the least such a building cou'd cost inside and out wou'd be ten thousand pounds. There was Mr. Lang the Parson who is her Oracle said he was sure 't would come to a great deal more. I confest my ignorance that I cou'd make no computation of the matter, & I had heard of people that thought they had been pritty nice in these affairs found themselves drawn in to double what they first thought of. . . . . We wish you mony enough to finish such another wing, & long to enjoy it, tho' for some years shou'd it have no more than one, it might overlook little London for its statelyness, and make his Great Honour [Mr. Watson Wentworth] burst with envy & his Little Honour pine & die. Serious I think it will make as fine a show as any house in Yorkshire, I won't say as any in the North, for they say Lord Carlilcs has already cost him above £40,000."—*Wentworth Papers*, p. 79.

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England, on the death of her grandmother, Lady Rawstorne,* shows the goodness of her heart:—"As to Lady Rawstorne's jewells, some of them I doe believe doe belong to Mr. Rawstorne,' but which they be I cannot tell, but I fancy if you showed them to him, I can't think he would say in so inconsiderable a thing that more belonged to him than really did, and what is his right I beg he may have, for I like diamonds very well, provid'd I can have them with justice and equity, but otherwise I had rathere be without them, for as God allmighty has bless'd us with plenty, I should think if I desired more than was just it would never thrive, and I might expect the same thing might happen to my children when I am dead, and I hope the longer you know me, the more you'll be convinced, that as near as I can I will do to others as I would they should do to me; but when you are satisfied about the diamonds, what you desire is at your service. As to the locket of your hair when I came here I desired her to lay it by for me. I fancy till you saw sister Donolan, you thought I talked more than anybody else, but now you have found somebody that out-dos me. Pray wou'd you not have *harness for eaght* horses put in mourning, for there is for six already don, and I think they have don my coach very handsom; would you not have your charriote don. If you buy me the snuff box pray let it be all gold tho' tis the less. I conclude Lady Wentworth (Lord S.'s mother) is extremely happy in having the whole management of my girl but I hope if she

* Rawstorne Alice, Lady Rawstorne, widow of Sir H. Smithson, wife of W. Rawstorne, and grandmother to Lady Strafford. See paper relating to her funeral in *Strafford Papers*, *Addl. MSS.* 22,230, fol. 135-141.

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is to keep her you'll augment her Pinn money. Lady Portland says she allways had £40 a year for every won of her children. I hope to God it will not be long before you come back. I am my Dear Life yours entirely and from the Bottom of my heart. Adieue.*

"A. STRAFFORDE."

Lord Strafford was at this period the owner of large

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* *Additional MSS.*, 22,226, fol. 368.

Peter Wentworth to Lord S., June 12, 1712.—"The Whigs are pleased to give out that there was but very odd figures at Court of the Birthday, and that there was no women fitt to look at but my Lady Strafford, Lady Lansdown, and Lady North."

"On January 15th, this year, Lady Wentworth wrote that she was sure it would be much to her daughter's advantage to be a good deal with her sister-in-law, "for I think Betty a very fyne woman, only wants a little polishing to make her compleat & Lady Straffords sweet & easy temper & gentle meen will take ofe the rufness of the other, for Betty has a great deal of wit & very good natured."

Lady Strafford to Lord S., March 21, 1712.—"I have been at Mr. Jervises to see our picktures; I think he has mended them both extremly and has made yours a good deal taller & the robes are well of them both. The Queen has a Drawing room to-night, so I goe as soon as I have dined to the Cock Pitt to wait on Lady W—— & then I goe to Court; and I have made sister Betty goe, for I think there is nothing will improve her so much as keeping the best company."

On February 28, Lady Wentworth wrote:—"Sir Godferry has made a good picture of Neic Hanbury & is drawing Peter Bathurst wife —pray let Sir Godferry Nelloe draw your Lady's picture, whoe is the best panter we have, nether of her picturs dus her justiss."

In January, it appears, ten guineas were paid to Benjamin Arland for a portrait of Lady Strafford, about which she writes to her husband:—"I believe you'll think this man has made me as much to handsom as Gervise did to ugley, tho' you know I never want for vanity about my own person, so I must confess I think it something like." Later in the year, the artist "De Garr" was at work on a "picture on horseback."—*The Wentworth Papers*, pp. 278-9.

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estates, and was in receipt of what would at that day be considered the large income of £14,000 a year. We give the following from a paper in his lordship's own handwriting :—"A particular of the Earl of Strafford's Estate in Land and Money, with his other incomes, all of which is cleare without portions or anything else charged upon it :—

	Per annum. £
"His Estate in Wakefield and Stainborough, &c., in Yorkshire, and at Ashby, Puerorum, Greetam, Wainfleet, &c., in Lincolnshire, with his house at Twittenham *	1,500
The Post Fines, granted to him by King William III., one year with another	2,000
In the fund of the 99 years payd quarterly without Deduction or Taxes	500
In the 32 years 103 blank tickets is	72
Two Prizes in the said Lottery	10
	4,082

* Lord Berkeley, of Stratton, writing to Lord Strafford, March 14, 1712 : "I was very happy lately in finding my Lady Strafford at home, and seeing you master of so good a house in town [St. James's Square], and was much entertained with a sight of fine pictures you have sent over."

Lord Raby purchased the house in St. James's Square, London, which was long occupied by his family, of Sir Richard Child, afterwards Lord Castlemaine. To this house Lord Raby made some considerable improvements. He was also building or rebuilding his house, at Twickenham, at the same time he was building Wentworth Castle.

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	£
In ready money	14,700
Tallies in cash	3,045
In assignments, &c.	6,335
In Plate and Jewels at least	12,000
The First Regt. of Dragoons, £1,500 per ann., for which is offered, £10,000, but in time of peace may be sold for much more	10,000
In money, &c.	46,080
Besides pictures, very rich furniture, and Equipage in Holland to a considerable value; the regular pay of Ambassador-Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the States is *	6,800
Which added to the estate as above makes per annum	10,882
The interest of £46,000 at 5½ per cent. is †	2,530
Total annual Revenue	£13,412

* 3rd Nov., 1713. Lady Strafford in a letter to Lady Rawstorne on the recall of Lord Strafford, says: "His Lordship quits an employment of above £6,000 a year."

† "Interest received 1772-3. William, Earl of Strafford.

1772	Mr. Watsons Representatives on	£1,000	4 per cent.	40	0 0
	William Sothern, Esq.	2,000	,,	80	0 0
	The Rev. Mr. Henry Wood	1,000	,,	40	0 0
	John Hay, Esq.	2,000	,,	80	0 0
	Mr. John Kent	1,000	,,	40	0 0
	Lord Rockingham	10,000	,,	400	0 0
1773	John Hay, Esq.	1,000	,,	40	0 0
	Mr. Butler Lucas	2,000	4½ per cent.	85	0 0
	Savile Finch, Esq.	1,000	4 per cent.	40	0 0
	Sir Wm. Wake, Bart.	1,000	,,	40	0 0

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"Besides an estate in the Fens of Lincolnshire, wch, if improved, may be of very great value, and several pretentions on the late Lord Strafford's estate, &c., ... to which, if added the interest of the £20 m. (£20,000), his lady's portion which will amount to a thousand pounds a year, the immediate income yearly will be together £14,412 per annum." *

Another paper of a later date gives Lord Strafford's estates as being at Stainborough, Rockley, Savile Hall, Keresforth-hill, Barnsley, Crigglestone, Wakefield, Richmond, and Swaledale, in Yorkshire; Colston Basset, in Nottinghamshire; Pisford and Boughton, in Northamptonshire; Toddington, in Bedfordshire; houses and land at Colney Hatch; house and gardens at Twickenham; houses in London; Frestone Hall and Snape Lordship, and a house and Meadows, at Bury, in Suffolk; property at Horncastle, and tolls in the market at Ashby, in Lincolnshire; and property at Leeming, out of which issued £30 a year for the minister of Stainborough.

The Whig party looked upon the Treaty of Peace which had been entered into as involving the "sacrifice of public honour," while the Tory and Jacobite parties hailed it with exultation and delight. On the outlines of the Treaty being

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1773 Sir Wm. Wake, Bart.	£1,000	4 per cent.	40	0	0
Lord Rockingham	2,000	,,	80	0	0
In 1778 Lord Rockingham had borrowed	£27,000		0	0	
Interest half year		540	0	0	
1778 Total amount at Interest		43,000	0	0	
Interest		2,081	16	6"—	

Addl. MSS., 22 240.

* *Addl. MSS.*, 22,230, fol. 125, 127.

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published, an address was carried in the House of Commons by acclamation. In the Lords, however, notwithstanding the recent creations, the Peers in opposition made a vigorous stand. The arrangement which provided for the Protestant interest was received with approbation, while other portions of the Treaty were denounced. Marlborough declared that the measures pursued in England for the last year were directly contrary to Her Majesty's engagements with her allies; that they sullied the triumphs and glories of her reign; and would render the English name odious to all other nations. It is certain that Marlborough had, of all men, the most right to complain; for the Treaty "foiled his plans, frustrated his hopes, and rendered all his victories vain."

The Earl of Strafford followed in debate. "Some of the allies (the Dutch)," said his lordship, "would not show such backwardness to a peace as they had hitherto done, but for a member of that illustrious house (the Duke of Marlborough), who had maintained a secret correspondence with them, and endeavoured to persuade them to carry on the war, feeding them with hopes that they should be supported by a strong party here." This was answered by Lord Cowper; and because Lord Strafford had not expressed himself with all the purity of the English tongue, his lordship took occasion thence to say, "The noble lord has been so long abroad, that he has almost forgot, not only the language, but the very constitution of his own country."*

* This was not the first time that Lord Strafford had been twitted on his bad English. In some remarks on the characters of the Court of Queen Anne, Lord Strafford, then Lord Raby, is included. These remarks were "touched up" by Dean Swift, and some observations of

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The duke's observations were supported by several excellent speeches from Lords Nottingham, Cowper, and others; yet they had, at that time, no effect. The address was carried by 81 votes against 35. Marlborough and other peers, it is true, signed protests; but they were afterwards expunged from the journals; and this was the last public act of the Duke of Marlborough during the Queen's reign.

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his own included are to be found in his works, vol. xii., p. 248. Swift's remarks are in parenthesis: "Lord Raby. He is a young gentleman *de bon naturel*, handsome, of fine understanding [very bad and cannot spell], and with application may prove a man of business; he is of low stature [he is tall], well shaped, with a good face, fair complexioned, not 30 years old." The author of these characters, however, it may be stated, drew them according to their politics rather than their qualifications.

"Lord Strafford's pride was also the subject of some remark. Dean Swift, in his Journal to Stella, under date Nov. 17, 1711, says: 'I hear Prior's commission is passed to be Ambassador-Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for the peace; my Lord Privy Seal, who you know is Bishop of Bristol, is the other; and Lord Strafford, already ambassador to the Hague, the third. . . Lord Strafford is as proud as hell, and how he will bear one of Prior's mean birth on an equal character with him I know not.' Again under date Feb. 9, 1711-12, Swift, in the same journal, writes to Stella: 'There is a foolish story got about the town that Lord Strafford, one of our plenipotentiaries, is in the interest of France; and it has been a good while said that Lord Privy Seal (Bishop of Bristol) and he do not agree very well; they are both long practised in business, but neither of them of much parts. Strafford has some life and spirit, but is infinitely proud and illiterate.' A note to the above adds: 'It proved as Swift prophesied; for Lord Strafford absolutely refused to be joined in commission with a person of such low birth, so that the department of trade with which Prior was to have been entrusted was necessarily committed to the Bishop of Bristol, a change which added greatly to the difficulties of the negotiations.'"—*Journal to Stella, Swift's Works*, vol. i., 224.

But Lord Strafford lived in an age when little attention was paid to

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At the time of the death of Queen Anne, August 1, 1714, Lord Strafford was Plenipotentiary for the Treaty of Utrecht; and by a distinct appointment, Ambassador-Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the States-General, Lieutenant-General of Her Majesty's forces, Colonel of the first regiment of foot-guards, First Lord of the Admiralty, as appointed August 29, 1712, and of her Cabinet and Privy Council. His lordship was, by Act of Parliament, appointed one of the Lords Justices for the administration of the kingdom, till the arrival of the King from Hanover, who, on his

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the minor departments of grammar; and it may be said of him as it had been said of Marlborough, that "he wrote with the carelessness of a soldier, not with the precision of a man of letters." To have given literal transcripts of his epistles would have afforded little gratification to those who look rather to things than to words, and who are more anxious to be acquainted with his thoughts than with his orthography. Besides, in point of taste, it would be useless to urge how much the pages of an historical narrative would have been disfigured by variations in spelling, arising from haste and inattention, from the careless habit of the times, or from long residence abroad.

Frederick Von Raumer, in *England in* 1835, vol. ii., p. 59, speaking of the Stepney papers, says: "Two of these volumes contain letters of Lord Raby from Berlin, and though I did not expect any important political facts, I thought I should find amusing matter respecting manners, customs, &c., but I was disappointed. There was a great deal indeed about hunting, fishing, weddings and funerals, quarrels for precedence, distribution of orders, etc.; but when these things are described neither with psychological acuteness, nor with wit and pleasantry, nor with reference to their deeper and more serious bearings, they soon lose all significance and interest, and history has not the slightest concern with them. I therefore lost patience, and went away from the British Museum before three o'clock to hear Mr. Faraday."

In the *Harleian MSS.*, 4741, fol. 49, &c., may be found a great many letters from Lord Raby from Berlin, etc.

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coming to the Hague, to embark for England, we are told, showed his lordship particular marks of his esteem, even so far as to come publicly with the Prince of Wales, to the Earl's house, where he played at ombre with his lady, amongst a great many foreign ministers and other persons of distinction. And when the King was stepping into the boat to embark for England, it was observed he took leave of the Earl in a most kind and marked manner. But after his Majesty's arrival in England, on September 18th, 1714, things took another turn, and on October 11th his lordship was superseded at the Admiralty-board by the Earl of Orford. However, he continued at the Hague in his public character till December 20th ensuing, when, in a public audience, taking leave of the States-General, he was, before his departure, presented with a gold medal and chain, valued at 6,000 guilders, and landed in England on January 1st following.

The storm, however, which had been gathering, now burst in all its fury, and there was soon a change of both men and measures. Lord Bolingbroke was one of the first to feel how deeply he had offended, and he found himself summarily dismissed from his office of Secretary of State. Lord Strafford, on his landing in England, on being recalled from the Hague, was requested to give up all his instructions and papers.* The Lord Townsend was sent

* In a letter from Lord Strafford to Lord Halifax, written in November, 1714, asking for a settlement of the accounts connected with his embassy, and pointing out the great expenses he was led into by the necessary celebrations for the peace and the King's coronation, he says: "I assure you I had above 500 people whom I entertained both in eating and drinking from ten o'clock at night till five in the morning. . . . 'Tis hard, after having served the Crown constantly, either in

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to his lordship's house to demand the same. The Earl having made some difficulty to comply with that demand, unless he had an express order from the Council in writing, was summoned before the Council on the 11th January, and after he had been examined, his Majesty was pleased to give orders accordingly to Lord Townshend and Mr. Secretary Stanhope, the Secretaries of State, who went immediately to the Earl of Strafford's house, and received from him two trunks, said by him to contain what was required. At the same time orders were sent for sealing up his lordship's papers that were yet on ship-board, or at the custom-house, coming from Holland.* Prior was ordered to return from France, and his correspondence was also seized, and, in fact, all the agents of the late Government were in the greatest alarm. A committee of secresy, consisting of 21 members, was appointed. Walpole was chairman, and took the lead in the whole business. He drew up the masterly report which was produced in about two months, which was a most elaborate document, and an able commentary on the whole series of negotiations relating

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the army or ministry, ever since the Revolution till this time, to think that, being recalled without any previous notice, I should be obliged either to leave a clamour of debts behind me, or else to pawn or sell some of my things to pay them, which can't be done secretly here. I don't pretend to plead poverty, for I thank God my estate and revenues are more than sufficient to maintain me at the full height I wish to live, but it is all so tied by marriage settlements that I can't dispose of one farthing of my capital, tho' I should suffer the dishonour to the Crown and myself of having my baggage stopped for debt, and tho' I have lost already £8,000 a-year by the Queen's death, yet I do assure your lordship I am several £1,000 the worse in my own fortune by my embassy."—*The Wentworth Papers*, pp. 33-4.

* *Parliamentary History*, vol. vii., p. 155.

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to the Peace of Utrecht. It was the composition of Walpole himself, and shows how much energy and hatred he had brought to the task of prosecuting his former rivals; for though the conduct of Strafford, Ormond, and Oxford was sternly commented upon, it was upon Bolingbroke that the principal weight of condemnation was made to fall. The impeachment of Bolingbroke did not call for a single dissenting vote.† That of Oxford, Mortimer, and Ormond followed, and on the 22nd of June, the Earl of Strafford was impeached, for high crimes and misdemeanours, for having advised the fatal suspension of arms, and the seizing of Ghent and Bruges, as well as for having treated the Most Serene House of Hanover with insolence and contempt. Mr. Aislaby, in moving the Earl's impeachment, took notice of the general concern that had appeared the day before in the House for the noble person who was impeached, because they were persuaded it was rather through weakness than malice that he had followed pernicious counsels. But that, in his opinion, few, if any, would speak in favour of the noble lord whom he was to impeach. The person he meant was Thomas, Earl of Strafford, one of the plenipotentiaries of Great Britain at the Congress of Utrecht, whose conduct had been vastly different from that of his colleague, the Bishop of London. That good and pious prelate seemed to have been put at the head of that negotiation only to palliate the iniquity of it, under the sacredness of his character, but he was little more than a

† *Parliamentary History*, vol. vii., p. 246-265. *Rapin's (Tindal's) Hist. of England*, vol. xviii., p. 383. *Journals of the House of Lords*, vol. xx., p. 192-7, 244, 380, 634. *Howell's State Trials*, vol. xv., p. 1,043.

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cypher in the absence of the Earl of Strafford. That the Bishop, not being in the secret, had acted with reserve and caution, and would do nothing without the Queen's special commands, whereas the Earl of Strafford, not only was forward to venture and undertake anything (as he expresses himself in one of his letters), to be the tool of a Frenchified ministry, but in many instances had gone beyond his instructions, and advised the most pernicious measures. That having impartially weighed the different conduct of these two ministers, he was glad that nothing could be charged upon the Bishop, which gave them an opportunity to convince the world that the Church was not in danger; he moved that Thomas, Earl of Strafford, be impeached of high crimes and misdemeanours. Mr. Aislaby enlarged upon this charge, which he reduced to three principal heads—1. The Earl of Strafford advising the fatal suspension of arms, which was soon afterwards attended with several misfortunes which befel the allies, and at last forced them to the necessity of submitting to the terms of an unsafe, dishonourable peace. 2. Advising the seizing of Ghent and Bruges, in order to distress the allies and favour the enemy; and 3. The insolence and contempt with which he had treated the most serene house of Hanover and their generals and ministers. Mr. Baillie having seconded Mr. Aislaby's motion, Sir William Wyndham endeavoured to justify the Earl of Strafford as to the first head, by saying that the peace, which was but the sequel and necessary consequence of the suspension of arms, had been approved as such by two successive Parliaments, and declared advantageous, safe, and honourable. Mr. Shippen, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Snell also spoke in favour of the Earl of Strafford, as did

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likewise Mr. Hungerford, who, among other things, said that though the Bishop of London had an equal share with the Earl of Strafford in the negotiation of peace, he was, it seems, to have the benefit of the clergy. General Ross having likewise said something to excuse the suspension of arms, General Cadogan answered him, and showed that, considering the situation of both armies, the confederates lost the fairest opportunity they had ever had in Flanders to destroy the enemy's army, and to penetrate into the very heart of France; but added that nothing less could be expected from a princess and a ministry who had entirely delivered themselves into the hands of France. Sir John Campbell spoke also against the Earl of Strafford; but the member who distinguished himself most in the debate was Sir James Dalrymple, who, with great clearness and solidity, summed up what had been said on both sides; and having illustrated the present case by parallel instances and proper observations, showed that, both by the civil and statute laws, the Earl of Strafford was, at least, guilty of high crimes and misdemeanours. Hereupon the question was put, and by 268 votes against 100, it was resolved, "That the House will impeach Thomas Earl of Strafford of high crimes and misdemeanours," and ordered that it be referred to the Committee of Secrecy, to draw up articles of impeachment and prepare evidence against the said Earl. These articles having been prepared, were presented and read to the House on September 1st. They were six in number, the heads of which were as follows:—

1. His Lordship is charged with promoting a separate negotiation.

2. With making scurrilous reflections on the Elector of

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Hanover, and of creating misunderstandings between her Majesty and the Electoral House.

3. Advising her Majesty to treat with the French Ministers before she was acknowledged by France.

4. Treating with France and not insisting upon the restitution of the Spanish Monarchy.

5. Advising a cessation and separation.

6. Advising the seizure of Ghent and Bruges.

The articles having been agreed to by the Commons, were carried by Mr. Aislaby to the Lords, and, having been read to that assembly, the Earl of Strafford made a long speech, wherein, among other things, he complained of the hardship which had been put upon him by seizing his papers in an unprecedented manner; that he desired to have drawn up and printed an account of all his negotiations, whereby, he did not doubt, he should have made it appear to all the world that he had done nothing but in discharge of his duty and of the trust reposed in him. That if, either in his letters or discourses, while he had the honour to represent the Crown of Great Britain, he had dropped any unguarded expressions against Foreign Ministers, he hoped the same would not be accounted a crime by a British House of Peers. He concluded by desiring that a competent time might be allowed him to answer the articles brought against him, and that he might have duplicates of all the papers that either had been laid before the Committee of Secrecy, or were still in the hands of the Government, which might be for his justification. The Lord Townshend said that his lordship's complaint about the taking his papers from him was altogether groundless and unjust; that infinite instances of the like proceed-

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ings might be adduced: that no State could be safe without it; and, in short, that extraordinary cases justify extraordinary methods. As to the Earl's demand to have duplicates of all his papers that had been laid before the Commons, he (Lord Townshend) thought it unreasonable, and made with no other design than to gain time and make the Commons lose the opportunity of bringing him to his trial. That those papers were so voluminous (consisting of thirteen or fourteen volumes in folio) that they could not be copied out in many weeks; and as the Earl might have had access to them ever since they were laid before Parliament, so he was still at liberty to peruse them, and extract out of them what he thought proper for his own defence. The Duke of Devonshire and the Lord Chancellor Cowper supported the Lord Townshend; on the other hand, the Lord Chancellor Harcourt and the Bishop of Rochester spoke for the Earl of Strafford; but what availed the latter most was said by the Earl of Ilay, who urged that all civilised nations, all courts of judicature, except the Inquisition, allowed the persons arraigned all that was necessary for their justification; and that the House of Peers of Great Britain ought not in this case to do anything contrary to that honour and equity for which they are so justly renowned throughout all Europe. Upon this it was resolved "that the Earl of Strafford should have copies of all such papers as were in the secretary's and other offices which he should think proper for his defence; that he should have free access to the papers that had been laid before the Commons, and that a month's time be allowed him to answer the articles of impeachment preferred against him.

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On the 20th September, Lord Strafford acquainted the House that he had employed several clerks to take copies of documents, but the same were so voluminous that they had only so far been able to make small progress therein, and his lordship therefore asked for an extension of time to prepare his defence. In response to the application, the time was prolonged to the first day of November; but it was not until the 9th January, 1715-16, that his lordship presented to the House his answers to the articles. These answers were of great length; and the Earl, in conclusion, hoped he had fully answered the several charges made against him. He could not but think himself extremely unfortunate in falling under the displeasure of the honourable House of Commons, nor could he receive the first intimation of it without the greatest surprise, not being conscious to himself that he had transgressed any known law. He was not without hope—having spent the best and greatest part of his life abroad in the army and in several embassies, always endeavouring to promote the welfare of his country—that he might on his return have met with its approbation, as a recompense for his long and faithful services. However, he comforted himself with this reflection, that every step of his proceedings in the late negotiations was laid before her Majesty, and received her royal approbation. Nor would it, he conceived, be judged improper, if he observed to their lordships that the States General, in their letter to her Majesty a little before the signing the peace, acknowledged that they could not enough commend her plenipotentiaries for the assistance they had given them in their treaty with France; and that all the allies gave frequent marks of their esteem for the Earl and

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his colleagues, on account of the many services they had received from them. The Earl was confident it would appear to their lordships that, although he did with the utmost application pursue the good of his own country preferably to that of any other whatsoever, yet he was never wanting to promote the advantages of the allies, particularly of the States-General, where it did not interfere with the interests of Great Britain. A separate treaty of peace was so far from his thoughts that, on the contrary, he was truly zealous to make it general; and he had the happiness to succeed therein, in as great a degree as was ever known when so many confederates were concerned. Nor was he less zealous in supporting, to the utmost of his abilities, the honour and reputation of his Royal mistress, which was so far from being prostituted or suffering any diminution by his negotiations, that her Majesty did, through the whole course of those negotiations, and to the very hour of her death, maintain as great and glorious a character as any of her royal predecessors, or as she herself had done in any former part of her reign.

On the 15th June, 1716, the Commons, having in the meantime considered Lord Strafford's answer to the articles of impeachment exhibited against him, brought in their report, which averred their "charges against him for high crimes and misdemeanours to be true; and that the said Earl is guilty of all the articles and charges herein respectively contained, in such manner as he stands impeached; and that the Commons will be ready to prove their charges against him at such convenient time as shall be appointed for that purpose."

After this there is no mention of further proceedings, and

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the prosecution would appear to have dropped. But it is observable that on August 18, 1715, Lord Strafford had protested against the rejection of the motion to inquire whether Lord Bolingbroke had been summoned, and in what manner, and against the passing of the Bills for attainder of Bolingbroke and Ormond. In the debates in the House of Lords upon the Bill against Atterbury, Strafford spoke on behalf of the Bishop, and in opposition to the Bill.

Lord Strafford, during the time these proceedings were going on, although greatly harassed, spent much of his time at Stainborough, superintending the great improvements he was there making. His magnificent building was approaching completion. He appears to have purchased materials and employed his own workmen in its erection. Joseph Bower was for many years his principal mason, and Bower's descendants continued to be masons at Wentworth Castle until within a few years ago. The wages at that day were very small, and materials cheap, and large works could be completed at comparatively small cost. The wages of Joseph Bower and other masons, at that time, it will be seen from the subjoined note, did not exceed 1s. a day,* and the following memorandum gives some of the items for

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* "A Bill of Work don for the Right Honble. the Earl of Strafford, at Stainborough, by Joseph Bower, senr., since Nov. 19th, 1726, to April ye 15, 1727.

	£	s.	d.
Nov. ye 26. Joseph Bower, walling at ye Pond-head at the bottom of the avenew, 4 days	0	4	0
Joseph Bower, junr., 5 days at ye same	0	5	0
John Bower, 4 days at ye same	0	4	0
John Wade, 4 days at ye same	0	4	0

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the different work connected with the building. This memorandum is endorsed "1714. Money paid for the Building at Stainbrough," and contains the following items :—

	£	s.	d.
Pd. to Joseph Bower	215	14	11
Pd. to Wm. Bullacke for worke	712	1	11
Pd. to Sam Senyor ye carpenter and his workmen	101	3	8
Pd. to Bricklayor	088	11	5
Pd. to Mr. Hamoke ye carver, &c.....	054	15	10
Pd. for Lyme to Sow'all in all.....	125	1	6
Pd. for makeinge 600,00 Bricks and for ye coales to burn ym with	195	3	4
Pd. for ye Quarey man for great stone	150	0	0
Pd. for ye leadinge stone from ye Quarey.....	262	3	6

Decb. ye 3. Joseph Bower, 1 day working at Lord Wintworth's tower, and working and setting ye stone steps out of ye Ivas wood in ye woke to ye Round green, and letting ye hors pond low	1	0	0
Other similar items follow at the above wages, which make a total of.....	21	10	2½

In Joseph Bower's bill, for May ye 15th, 1730, occur the items :—

April 22. Joseph Bower, senr., 2 days lying the foundation for Wentworth Castle.....	0	2	0
Joseph Bower, junr., 2 days and a half at ye same work	0	2	0
Jno. Bower, 3 days do.	0	3	0
Thom. Bower, 3 days do., at 1s. 2d.	0	3	6
Jonathan Bower, 3 days do., at 10d.	0	2	6
John Swift, 3 days do., at 10d.	0	2	6
Joseph Hollinworth, 3 days do., at 6d.	0	1	6

Similar items are continued.

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	£	s.	d.
Pd. for 1561 poules for scafold, &c.	121	3	0
Pd. for 792 yds. Oake Bordes.....	012	2	0
Pd. ye Roape maker for Roapes.....	041	16	0
Pd. for Timber for ye buildinge..	259	3	6
Pd. for ye Cellars and ye Sow diging.....	080	14	3
Pd. to Mr. Fell for 35 ffoder of lead	328	11	0
Pd. to Tho: Stainton for Nayles in pte	13	9	6
Pd. ye Smyth in pte for cramp irons*			

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* "Staneborrow, Sep. 10, 1716.—Agreement made between the Earl of Strafford and Robert Bakewell, for making a pair of iron gates and pallosading, for ye front of his Lordship's house at Staneborrow, for £200, to be completed and set up by ye 1st of March following: and an agreement also to furnish iron rails, according to a model given in, to separate ye garden from ye terrace, on ye south end of the house, with gates to open of ye same work 10 feet wide, the pilasters to have the arms and garter upon them, to be made six feet high.—ROBERT BAKEWELL, Iron Gate Maker, Darby."

Thos. Booker agrees with the Earl to make a "Bowlen green" for £6 sterling.

"Agreement between the Earl and Daniel Hervey, of York, for 4 capetals, after ye Corinthian order, which are to be fitted in just proportion to 4 marble columns, which have been shown to the said Daniel; also 4 other capetals for 4 marble pilasters which are designed to be erected in the gallery of the said Earl's house of Stainborough Hall—to be worked out of Roche Abbey stone, in masterly workmanlike manner, Daniel to find the stone, and deliver the capetals finished, before the last day of June ensuing for the sum of £50 for the eight capetals.—Dated 29th May, 1720."

The gallery at Stainborough for which these were designed is said to be one of the finest in England. It is one hundred and eighty feet long, twenty-six broad, and thirty high, and is in three divisions, formed by four marble pillars with gilt capitals, and richly ornamented marble entablatures. The spaces between are occupied by four full-sized statues of Bacchus, Ceres, Apollo, and an Egyptian Priestess.

A long detailed account for painting the interior and exterior of the hall, dated September 28th, 1720, including the gates and ironwork

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While "His Honour Wentworth," of Wentworth Woodhouse, and his son, Lord Malton, distinguished themselves in their support of the Hanoverian succession, Lord Strafford would appear to have secretly favoured the claims of the Pretender, and been mixed up in some of the Jacobite intrigues of the times,* for on the 9th March, 1722-3, in some proceedings in the House of Lords, Lord Strafford and Lord Kinnoul are mentioned in the depositions of Andrew Pancier, "that he had been told by one Skeene (then in custody) that the said Lords knew of an invasion intended by forces from abroad, and were concerned in the management of the conspiracy here," and a motion was made in the House that the said Andrew Pancier and — Skeene should be commanded to attend at the Bar of the House, and negatived.*

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outside, was rendered by William Addinell, and amounted to £178 3s. 9½d. The items include 24 chairs and 42 buckets with my lord's arms painted on them.—*Strafford Papers, Addl. MSS.*, 22,241, fol. 7, 8, 11, 13.

At the Barnsley Races, held on Wednesday and Thursday, July 30th and 31st, 1717, a piece of plate of £10 value, given by the Right Hon. the Earl of Strafford, was to be run for on Barnsley Moor by any horse, &c., not exceeding 13 hands 3 inches, &c.

* "After the failure of the attempt to impeach Lord Strafford for his share in the Utrecht Treaty, the ex-ambassador seems to have quitted public affairs in disgust, and to have devoted himself to the completion of his great house, and to the improvement of his estates in Yorkshire. The number of letters addressed to him for many years after his return from the Hague is very small, and it is probable that it was not thought politic to preserve many of them; for there can be no doubt that the dissatisfied earl was in occasional correspondence with the Pretender; the extracts from the Stuart Papers, in Windsor Castle, printed by Lord Stanhope in his history, prove this clearly enough."—*The Wentworth Papers*, p. 135.

* *Journal of the House of Lords*, vol. xxii., pp. 110, 111. *Ibid*, vol. xxii., p. 128. 1722-3.

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On the 23rd March, the *Weekly Journal and British Gazetteer* inserted the name of the Earl of Strafford in a "List of the Conspirators concerned in the late plot formed against the King and Government for setting the Pretender on the British Throne."*

Dr. Doran, in *London and the Jacobite Times*, vol. i., p. 403, writing of this affair, says:—"Lords Strafford, Kinnoul, and Grey, with Atterbury, were compromised, so far as the evidence of the Captain—Lieutenant Pancier, of Cobham's Dragoons—went. He deposed that he had been told by one Skeene that the above Peers were concerned in the plot. This took place when a committee of the House of

* "On the 15th Jan., 1722-3, the House of Commons appointed a committee to examine Layer and his papers, in the Tower, in order to get a deeper knowledge of the plot to dispose of the king, than they yet possessed. In the subsequent report of this committee, it was stated that the horrible and execrable design had long been entertained by "persons of figure and distinction" at home, as well as by traitors abroad. Of those at home were Lords Orrery, North and Grey, Lord Kinnoul, Lord Strafford, Sir Henry Goring, and with these, Bishop Atterbury, and others. Actively or passively these were all concerned in a conspiracy for an invasion of the kingdom by a force that was to leave Spain under the Duke of Ormond, to be joined by a Jacobite force on the coast and in the capital, and by their united power to destroy the existing state of things, the royal family included."—*London and the Jacobite Times*, vol. i., pp. 397-9.

"When Bishop Atterbury was attainted for being mixed up in the Jacobite plot, Lord Strafford spoke vigorously against the bill. . . . .

"The Peers, who had been arrested, were now admitted to bail, in £20,000 each themselves, and four sureties in £10,000. These included Lords North and Grey, and the Duke of Norfolk. For Thomas Cochran and Captain Dennis Kelly, who were also involved in the plot, bail was taken of £4,000 each, and four sureties in £2,000; and for the latter, the Earl of Strafford, Lords Arundel and Bathurst, "with downright Shippen," were bail—rank Jacobites most of them are said to have been."—*London and the Jacobite Times*, vol. 1, p. 438.

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Commons visited Layer, under sentence of death, in the Tower. Plunkett deposed that he had heard Layer say the same of the Earls Scarsdale, Strafford, Cowper [and other noblemen], all of whom were said to belong to a seditious company called Barford's Club. Motions to get Pancier, Skeene, and Plunkett before the House of Peers were made and lost. Lord Cowper was the only Peer who denied the alleged facts by a formal declaration. It was on this occasion that the Earl of Strafford declared his feelings in a very lofty manner. 'I have the honour,' he said, 'to have more ancient noble blood running in my veins than some others; so I hope I may be allowed to express more than ordinary resentment against insults offered to the Peerage.'" Lady Wentworth, Lord Strafford's mother, also appears to have been mixed up in these plottings, for at p. 367 Dr. Doran says: "In 1722, treason seemed to lurk in the least likely places. Why had the Chamberlain so summarily ordered Lady Wentworth to vacate the lodgings she had been permitted to occupy at the Cockpit? Simply because she had allowed disaffected persons to meet there. There had been a mysterious vessel lying off the Tower, and a going to and fro between it and Lady Wentworth's lodgings.* The police visited both. They seized treasonable papers aboard the ship, and they swept the lodgings clear of all its inmates, including the servants. The former included the famous

* "In the latter part of her life, Lady Wentworth appears to have lived almost entirely at Twickenham, receiving an annuity of £200 from her son. Her quarterly acknowledgments of the amount have been carefully preserved along with many other vouchers for the Earl's disbursements, including receipts from grocers, bootmakers, tailors, lawyers, the Sun Fire Office, the Governor and Company of Undertakers for raising the Thames water at York Buildings, &c. One

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Captain Dennis Kelly, his wife, her mother, Lady Bellew* (sister of the Earl of Strafford), and some persons of less note. They were all about to ship for France, in furtherance of the conspiracy. The ladies were allowed to go free, but the Captain, with some co-mates in misery, were fast locked in the Tower."

After this we hear of no further troubles in which Lord Strafford was implicated. He now went on living the life which he had shadowed forth some years before, in a letter

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receipt in Lord Strafford's hand-writing, and signed only by Lady Wentworth, runs thus :—

"June ye 10th, 1728. Received of my son, Strafford, ten pounds in part of my quarter due next midsummer. I hope God will forgive him for paying me before it is due, and breaking his resolution, but it is because he is going into the country, and I promise to be a better manager for the future, and never to ask him before my quarter is due, only this time my son Peter took advantage of my good nature, and weedled me out of six and twenty shillings, which I fear he will never pay me. Isabella Wentworth.

"The *Twickenham Parish Register* records her burial there on August 10th, 1733."—*Ibid*, p. 480.

* "Frances Arabella, second daughter of Sir William Wentworth (maid of honour to Queen Mary, wife of James II.), married Walter Lord Bellew, of the Kingdom of Ireland." *Collins Peerage.* "Sir William Wentworth was evidently in high favour with James II., for a news letter of September, 1686, records that, on the marriage of his daughter to Lord Bellew, 'an Irish Papist,' the King made her a present of £3,000. Lord Bellew, we may note, remained faithful to the king after his flight, and fought for his cause in Ireland at the battle of Aughrim, where he was severely wounded and taken prisoner; his wounds, indeed, were so serious, that they brought about his death within a few months after his release. It does not appear that Sir William Wentworth's attachment to his Catholic master was so steadfast; for, after the Revolution, we are told a cornet's commission was bought for his son, Thomas, in the regiment of horse commanded by Lord Colchester, afterwards Earl Rivers."—*The Wentworth Papers, J. J. Cartwright, M.A.*, pp. 3, 4.

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to Sir William Wentworth, of Bretton, of "a country gentleman trying to gain my neighbours by looking up my great dogs, opening my cellars, and having no inn by my house," and this kind of life he continued to lead up to the time of his death; paying periodical visits to his other seats, and to his town house during the London season.* About 1723, he purchased all that was left of the Rockley estate, which formed a fine adjunct to his Stainborough property; and in doing this, he by his cleverness forestalled his rival, his Honour Wentworth, who had a mortgage on it, and was also desirous of being the purchaser. Serjeant Darnall†

* Lord Bathurst, in a letter to Lord Strafford, dated Oct. 26, 1725, writes :—"I should have thought myself very happy if I cou'd have had the pleasure of waiting on your lordship and my Lady Strafford, at Stainborough; but indeed I had great satisfaction in seeing that place so much improv'd since I was there last. The gallery is a very magnificent room, now the pillars are up, and the gardens are extremely improv'd by laying them open to the Park. I thought the cascade in the Court very handsome till I saw that in the Menagerie, which exceeds it very much, and is indeed as handsome and as agreeable as any I ever saw. It was the more surprising to me because I did not expect it, and did not think your lordship had such a command of water there, or that there was so large a fall."

† "I hereby consent that Mr. John Knutton, and all the rest of the tenants of the estate late of Lewis Westcombe, and his wife, in Rockley and Worsborough, which was mortgaged to me, on sight of hereof, attorn and become tenants for the same to John Darnall, Esq., Serjt.-at-law, and pay their arrears and growing rents to him or his order, as witness my hand this 10th day of August, 1723.

"Witnesses hereunto— "TH : WENTWORTH.

"BEN : SHEPPARD, Svt. to the sd. Mr. Wentworth.

"JOHN ROSE, of Northampton.

"HEN : HORTON, Clerk to Mr. Rose."—

Strafford Papers, 22,243, fol. 27.

[All the mortgages redeemed by Serjt. Darnall, and the rights of the estate bought up, were conveyed to him, and then re-conveyed to Lord Strafford, in 1723.]

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acted as his lordship's agent in this transaction, and it was not known until the purchase was finally completed that he was acting on behalf of his lordship.* The following memorandums will show what was about the extent and value of the Manor of Rockley at that period :—

"THE MANOR OF ROCKLEY.	£	s.	d.
Containing about 350 acres of Pasture and Arable land, let formerly one with another at 11s. per acre, amounted to per ann. £183 15s. 0d., at 22 years' purchase, is worth	4042	10	0
A Corn Mill at £11 0 0	220	0	0
£194 15 0	4262	10	0
The Furnace and Ironstone was lately let to Mr. Green, for 21 years, at £160 0 0	2000	0	0
	6262	10	0
200 acres of Wood land, about 10 years' growth one with another, all thinning wood, worth.....	2000	0	0
In all.....	£8262	10	0

* "Mr. Silvester, of Birthwaite Hall, was also mixed up in money matters with the Rockley estate and was desirous of being the purchaser; and in one of Mr. Bromley's letters it is stated that he (Mr. Silvester) was in a great rage at being forestalled in the purchase.

The following is a key to the writing in cypher between Mr. Collins and Lord Strafford during the negotiations for the purchase of the Rockley estate :—Hacket, Johnson; Herne, Hawksworth; Watson Wentworth, Vermin; Serjt. Darnal, Wortley; Arther, Richards; Collens, Ramond; Strafford, York; Asleby, Trickster; Rockley, Holditch; Worspur, Clifdon; Westcomb, Randal; the terme, Season; the Master in Chancery, Finall; Chancellour, Judge."—*Addl. MSS.*, 31,152, fol. 105.

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NOTE.—There is about £5 in the Chief and Cottage Rents, and a great quantity of Coale, and a good deal of Common ground, all of which is valuable, tho' nothing charged for it.

All these lands are in Mortgage to Mr. Watson Wentworth for about £2,400, which is the prior encumbrance on the Estate.

"MONEYS LENT ON ROCKLEY.	£	s.	d.
First a bond from Mr. Hackett to Serjt. Darnall	300	0	0
Interest of the same	90	0	0
A note of Mr. Collins, dated 18th Dec., 1718	30	0	0
A receipt of Serjt. Darnall's of April ye 19th, 1722, for a bill of Charges pay'd Mr. Ashton	76	0	0
Dec. ye 17th, 1720, a Release from Nathaniel Horne to Serjt. Darnall	3211	17	10
The Interest to Dec., 1723.....	331	10	0
	£4039	7	10
Reported due to Wentworth 1st August, 1723	4801	1	7
Paid him till 16th August	11	16	6
A Bill to Aslaby	10	0	0
	£8862	5	11
Further Interest	120	1	0
*	£8982	6	11"

* *Addl. MSS.*, 22243, fols. 4, 38.

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There was, however, considerable litigation afterwards with regard to this purchase. A claim was made to the estate by Robert Rockley, son of Richard Rockley, the heir male of the family,* by virtue of certain deeds of

* The following letters are from Mr. Robert Rockley to Lord Strafford :—

"Lees, February 21, 1726.

"My Lord,—

"As your Lordship was pleased to say att Stainborough that you would be glad to see my sonn att London, I have been so bold as to order him to wayt upon your Lordship with this letter and the enclosed copy of verses which I was speaking of when I had the honour to bee with you, and indeed my Lord I was then sorry I could not send you my book, but I have now gott it home, and when your Lordship returns into the country you shall be attended with it. As I was formerly desiring your favour in the behalf of my dear sonn the bearer hereof, I make bold to do the same again now, and if your Lordship will be pleased to do him any service it shall bee acknowledged by me and him and all my family with the greatest gratitude in the world, and I have the vanity to believe that a great many of my old neighbours and countrymen would bee pleased with your Lordship's favour to him, because my family have been antient thereabouts, and I live in hopes it may agayn bee raysed by your favour. I am sensible your Lordship is not a minister in this court, but I flatter myself you have friends that are, and that your recommendation may do my sonn good service.

"And now my Lord it is high time to beg your Lordship's pardon for the trouble of this, and most humbly to assure your Lordship that none of your friendes does or can wish your Lordship and your whole noble family more health and prosperity than "Your Lordship's

"Most obliged and ever most obedient servant,

"Ro: Rockley.

"The Right Hon. the Earl of Strafford."

"Lees, 15th of November, 1730.

"My Lord,—

"Tho' I did order an appearance by Mr. Carrington's clerk in Court that I might be att no charge in taking out a copy of your Lordship's bill, yet it was always my firm resolution to put in a full, just, and honest answer, as I told your lordship I would doe, when I had

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entail; and also by Henry Carrington, of the Yews, an attorney, who had been much employed in the Rockley suits under assignment alleged to have been made to him previously to the grants under which the Earl of Strafford claimed. After this litigation had been going on for some time, Carrington applied to the Earl to have the affair compromised, and on the 8th November, 1726, it was agreed

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the honour to wayt upon you at Stainburrough, and I send this to assure your Lordship that if you will please to send me a copy of your Lordship's bill, or att least what concerns me, I will draw a sort of a rough draught of my answer, and send it to your Lordship to be put into a proper form, and I shall be very glad to doe it, that all the world may knowe how much I abhorred to clayme the equity of redemption of Rockley, which I knowe was never bought nor intended to bee bought, and should Mr. Edmunds or his friends blame me for it, I shall never concern or trouble myself about that, where truth and justice is concerned, but if ever I should be told that he did I shall not stick to tell him that hee is a base man for so doing. Neither I nor my family was ever beholden to the Carringtons or the Edmundes's, but the first had his greatest rise from mine—his father had even his very bread from them, and the latter now enjoys an estate of the Rockleys worth more by £3,000 than ever was paid for it, so that I have room to speake out. I shall speak upon a proper occasion, and never joyne with them upon any account whatsoever; but I do solemnly declare, that as I cannot have my ancestors' estate myself, I rather wish to see it in your Lordship's hands than in any other, because it lyes contigious to your estate, and I know is a beauty to it, and I truly wish your Lordship your healthe long to enjoy it, and am with strict truth and great respect,

"Your Lordshipp's most obedient humble servant,

"Ro: Rockley.

"I did not in the least doubt but Mr. Edmunds would have agreed with your Lordship upon reasonable terms, and wonder that hee does not."

"Lees, 8th of Dec., 1730.

"My Lord—

"Herewith your Lordship receives a rough draught of my answer, which I hope will give you satisfaction; it is the Gospel truth,

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among all the parties that legal proceedings should cease, that the Earl should pay Carrington £200, in consideration of which he and Rockley should convey the equity of redemption of the Manor of Worsborough, and of all estates and lands at Rockley, in the tenure of the Earl or his

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and that I will stand by whilst I live, and I do assure your Lordship that if I had answered with the other defendants I would have answered the very same thing, for it should not have been in their power to have led me either one way or another: it is true I owne I was led too much by Mr. Carrington, but I thank God it was not out of any weaknesse, but in hopes of a match that my dear sonn might have been again settled in some part of the estate of his ancestors, for as Mr. C—n. several times hinted his designe to me, it was impossible for me to knowe whether hee was in good earnest or not, and I was truly sensible that if hee did me and my family justice, he should have marryed her to my sonn before any other person, and I am very glad I cannot reproach myself with anything that caused his baseness to me."

After the death of Mr. Carrington, in 1730, and after the marriage of his daughter with Mr. Edmunds, Mr. Rockley addressed a letter to the Earl of Strafford, soliciting his interference with Mr. Edmunds in his behalf. The Earl enclosed it, describing the writer as "a poor gentleman, an honest man, who has had hard usage." The following is an extract from it:—"It is well known to all the neighbourhood of Worspor (*sic*) how much Mr. Carrington hath been concerned in and about that estate, and what great sums he hath got by it; and your Lordship is truly sensible that he had never got the purchase of that estate from my cozen Wescombe, but that I told them that there was a match designed betwixt my son and his daughter; and whilst I breathe I must and will say that Mr. Carrington, before that time, and all that time, and since that time, gave me hopes of it, both by word of mouth and by letter; and, if he had lived, whether he would have performed his promise, I know not, but as she has married another, the case is hard upon me, and I beg some reliefe; and my request is that Mr. Edmunds would allow me, for my natural life, the Balk Farm, wherein I was born, which, I think, is £27 10s. per ann.; and I may truly say it may be well afforded, considering the many good bargains Mr. Carrington got of my relations, and particularly this last by my sole means; and, as I am in the 60th year of my age, &c., if this be granted, I will freely give him a release

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tenants, and that the Earl should convey to Carrington all lands in Worsborough and Worsborough Dale (except the Manor) then in Carrington's possession. This agreement had not been carried out on the death of Carrington in

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and confirmation of every thing, and, indeed, I would sometimes come and table with the tenant at Baulk Farm, and so lay my bones among my ancestors, and by so doing I hope God will give a greater blessing to his estate," &c.

"RO. ROCKLEY."

"Lees, Oct. 27, 1731.

"My Lord,—

"Being told that your Lordship expects I should seal releases to such agreements as your Lordship and Mr. Edmundes make concerning the Rockley estate, I send this most humbly to represent to your Lordship that I will never do it unless Mr. Edmundes will allow me £20 per annum for my life, which I am satisfied he ought to doo, because I knowe that hee actually enjoys an estate which belonged to my family worth about £3,000, more than ever his father, Carrington, paid for it, or cost him, to all persons whatever, and in a great measure by my owne very monies, but to make an end of all clayms and pretences whatsoever if he will do that; att the same time I send to your Lordship, I will send to him, and to show my just intent I will not desire that £20 per annum untill he be reimbursed all damages and costs that hee hath, or may sustain by My Dear Sonn, and this, I think, is very fair in your Lorships most obedient and humble servant,

"RO. ROCKLEY.

"To the Right Honble. Thos. Earl of Strafford."

How Mr. Rockley's request was received by Mr. Edmundes we cannot say. He continued to reside in the family of Sir Arthur Kaye, at Woodsome Lees, as a confidential steward, having married a distant relation of Lady Kaye. His desire to lay his bones among those of his ancestors does not appear to have been gratified, for he was buried in the Parish Church at Almonbury, near Huddersfield. He left one son, who died a bachelor, and who wrote a history of his family, in which occur the following words:—"He is now within three months of seventy; at whose death, which must be soon, there will be an end of this once ancient and opulent family."

—*Addl. MSS*, 22,236, fol. 63, 64, 74. *Mr. Bower's Notes of the Worsborough Evidences.*

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1730, and we find Lord Strafford again moving in the matter, and seeking that the arrangement may be set aside for certain reasons shown, and he be permitted to prosecute his suit against the widow and daughter of Carrington, notwithstanding the agreement that all suits should cease. They, however, eventually yielded to the powerful influence of the Earl's station and purse by an arrangement which was similar to that of 1726.

Lord Strafford, soon after his purchase of Stainborough, would appear to have had an eye to the Rockley estate, as will appear from the following letter, addressed to him by Lewis Wescombe, who had married Catherine, the only daughter and heiress of Francis Rockley:—"June 26th, 1711. My Lord,—I have sent your lordship a short particular of the Manor of Rockley, and also a particular of lands in Worsbrough. Mr. Watson Wentworth has a mortgage of £2,700, and he having of late shown some civility to me, I beg the favour of your Lordship that it may be kept private, my treating with you anyways. I will wait on your lordship soon and shall then intimate my mind more freely. In the meantime I am with all regard, my lord, your lordship's most obedient humble servant, L. WESCOMBE." Writing to Lord Strafford thirteen years later, from "Paris, 7th Feb., 1724," Mr. Wescombe says: "It was no surprise to me to hear your lordship had paid off Mr. Wentworth's mortgage in Serjeant Darnall's name, I having been informed of all that transaction long before, and that the serjeant acted in that matter for your lordship; but it seems odd to me that a person of your good sense and caution should be prevailed upon to hearken to Mr. Hacket [Mr. H. had married Francis Rockley's widow] or

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any of his people, that he had any reall security upon my wife's and my estate in Rockley from us, assuring your lordship the deeds we gave Hacket were for no valuable consideration, and that will be seen in its proper time, so that if your lordship has advanced Hacket any money on that security (as I hear you have) your lordship will be a sufferer in it. That estate lyes convenient for your lordship, and if you desire to purchase it, and to enjoy it without trouble, I desire to know at once the utmost you will give for my wife's and my right therein, before I proceed in another method, which I am advised to do out of hand, so I thought fit to give your lordship this notice that you should have no reason to complain of him who is, with all respect, &c., LEWIS WESCOMBE." Writing on the 8th March in the same year to his lordship, Wescombe says: "I am surprised to hear by yours that your lordship should make purchase of an estate without agreeing with us, the true proprietors of it, and especially when your lordship was told by me at Utrecht how unjustly Mr. Hacket had dealt with us, who had always the right of redeeming it; and further I am concerned your lordship should have advanced more money upon the estate than 'tis worth, by reason of the great regard I had always for your lordship; but at the same time you must give me leave to tell you that if you have made any agreement with Mr. Hacket, or advanced any money to him, or to any person under him upon the security of the deeds of mortgage from us, it will not be found valid, for those writings to him were given for some reasons we had then, not proper to be mentioned, and not upon any valuable consideration; and 'tis only by the mortgages that were assigned to Mr. Wentworth (which

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your lordship has paid off), that you have any right to hold our estate, till they be redeemed. Therefore, if your lordship thinks fit to purchase my wife's right in what we have a claim to, of the equity of redemption, and whereby you may have a good title, and sit at ease, be pleased to make such an offer to us as we can accept of, that no time may be lost on either side."

By a letter from Mr. Wescombe to Lord Strafford, dated from London, 27th January, 1729-30, it would appear that Wescombe's claim was in a fair way for being compromised. In it occurs the following:—"The honour your lordship did me last night with so early an answer to my proposal, deserves an equal return. And, whereas there is nothing designed by my wife and me but to do your lordship all the good we can, the matter does not require any consideration, as there is not the least thought of circumvention; and though my spouse never had any intention of giving up our right under £500, nor did we ever recede from that amount to Mr. Draycott, when he was last with us, yet I will venture to say now one word farther: that if your lordship thinks fit to pay either at Paris or Calais, on the perfecting of your writings £300, my spouse and I will leave to your generosity the other £200, and then your lordship may have a blessing with the estate as we desire."* A month later, Catherine Wescombe, in a letter from Calais to Lord Strafford, dated Feb. 23, announces the death of her husband, and says:—"All I am capable to assist your lordship in I will, that you may punish them for their past baseness; but though Carrington would cheat all

* *Addl. MSS.*, 22,236, fol. 113, 138-140.

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mankind, the devill will cheat him at last. My poor advise is to keep what your lordship and I have done still private; but alas as God toke my dear spouse from me, he has at the same time taken from me all ye bread I had to depend upon; for I assure your lordship I have nothing sure to myself for bread now but yt little you sent me by Mr. Hamilton which I must be careful not to spend, but to support myself by it, till God puts me in a way, or gives me thoughts where to get more. I do believe you pitty me, that after living well so long, I should now be exposed to every wind of fortune to shake me. O hard fate! The Jesuits have robed me of my son—barbarously seduced him from me, whilst his dear father was absent; who else might now have honorably been put into some business to have given me bread. Unhappy as I am, I assure yor lordship all I am capable of to yor good I will do with pleasure, having nothing more left me in this world that I value."

Writing from Calais, April 4th, she says:—"I am continually ill, by the great uneasiness of my mind; and unless Providence obliges ye Duke of Newcastle to hearken to what yor. Lordsp. will say in my favour when you give him my letter, and it makes him procure for me from our Court what I so much want, and desire of them, I shall not know which way to turn to for bread for the future; and pray judge what a sad prospect that is for me. . . . As I cannot yet command the many letters Mr. Rockley did write to us just after he had completed ye bargain with us for the Manner of Worsbrough, whereby he did treat with us anew for the Manner of Rockley, I think ye few lines I have now wrott to him will draw again from him his treating with me for that manner, wch. he pretends to yor. Lordsp.

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he has already bought of us, wch. is false: and so soon as we receive his answer to mine you will better be able to have such strong questions put by yr. Lordsp. to Rockley as then will confound him; for if Carrington has, by roguish and sinister means, put such words into the deeds we signed at Paris, for Worsbrough, as he hoped would include the manor of Rockley too, it is not impossible by the contrivance of such a roguish deed, but that deed may by this Chancellor be wholly made void, on repaying back to Mr. Rockley ye twelve hundred pounds yt was paid us for ye Manner of Worsbrough alone designed; and at that time we did make Mr. Rockley sensible that what we toke from him for it, was not half its value, even of the arrears that was due to me from yt estate by Carrington, as by a Commission several years before was found due to me, besides the value of the Lands. But he said in letters yt. as his son was to marry Carrington's daughter, so what I forgave Carrington was given to his son, and by that means all differences were made up; as I then valued Mr. Rockley, my next relation, and wished he might have had the ancient estate to keep up our family, I did condescend to his proposall, which by severall of his letters he explained was only for the manner of Worsbrough; the point is, if them deeds we signed here abroad, which they drew and sent to us, was contrary to our real bargain (as by his letters may be shown), and they by sinester means put more in them deeds than ought to have been, I believe the whole bargain is void. If that could be, that Rogue yt is dead, Carrington*

* "March 18, 1729-30.—Yesterday, Mr. Henry Carrington, of Views, was buried at Worsborough. This day fortnight he was at Mr. Hawksworth's, in Barnsley, at the eating of a barrell of oysters, where

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has done a fine worke for Mr. Rockley, Carrington having left effects enough to make good my demand on him, and yr Lordsp by yt means may have both ye manners. Pray let it be well considered what I herein mention; and if yr lordship approves of my letter to Mr. Rockley, pray send it to him, that we may forthwith get his answer and draw afresh from him that he does treat with me for Rockley, &c." *

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perhaps he might get too much liquor. He fell into a fit of the stone and strangury, and a feaver, and died on Saturday last, about 7 a clock at night. He has left an only daughter."—*Yorkshire Diaries, Surtees Soc. Pub.* vol. 65, p. 294.

"June 30, 1730.—This day Mr: Edmunds was married at Worsborough to Mis: Carrington; she is in the sixteenth year of her age." —*Ibid*, p. 297.

"May 17, 1729.—Toby Holland, of Worsborough Dale, aged 75, informs me that he knew most of the Rockleys. The old squire (who was father to them) had a glass eye. His eldest son married her who afterwards married Mr. Hackette, and had an only daughter married to Wescombe. Jervase Rockley owned the Blacker; he mortgaged it to some gentlemen of London, Sir Newman, and Sir Christopher Wren, the architect, and — Rayney. Mr. Wilcox, who went from Worsborough, was their steward, or agent, and returned the rents. The present Mr. Carrington purchased it of their widdows (or executors) for a little money, at an underworth. The said Mr. Carrington's father was a poor vagrant boy; came into the family of the Rockley's, where he was brought up. Was first the spit-turner; at length he farmed some land of them at Blacker, where this Mr. Carrington was born, and brought up an attorney."—*Ibid*, vol. 65, p. 290.

* "Catherine Wescombe to Robert Rockley.

"London, Feby. 24, 1727.

"Sir,—I am inform'd by a person I can depend upon, that you and Carrington had told the Earl of Strafford, that my spouse and I had sold the equity of redemption of Rockley to you and him; this report has much surprised me, it being so false in itself, as appears plainly by many of your letters, which I have by me, both before and after we

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In another letter Mrs. Wescombe refers again to her only son having joined the Jesuits, and he is, she states, "as good as dead to her," and begs of his lordship to assist her in some way to obtain a pension to support "a poor unfortunate gentlewoman," for which purpose she is sending a memorial to the Duke of Newcastle. "I am," she continues, "left without anything for my bread for the future—a poor helpless woman that has not been used to want;" hopes to get some little assistance from Court for the small remainder of her life. "I should then be ready, and have it in my power on all occasions, to render your Lordship service, against those that would oppose you to have ye estate of Rockley

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treated with you (at your aunt my dr mother's instance), for the lands of Worsborough, which Carrington so long unjustly kept possession off from me.

"When you acquainted me that yr son was to marry Carrington's daughter, it made me hope that Carrington's conscience began to prick him for the wrongs he had done to our family, so was willing to make some restitution at last, which indeed inclined me to treat with you, I being willing you shou'd possess at least some part of the estate of our ancestors; and since I had that consideration for you, it is very base to act, or say anything derogatory from a gentleman and the antient family you are descended off; so I should be glad to hear by first post from you the truth of this report, that you may justify yourself, or I shall be obliged to expose the villainy.

"I am, sir, your humble servant,

"CAT: WESCOMBE.

"You may send your answer to your son here, and let him give it to Mr. Herbert, whom he knows, and does lodge at the blew ball, in Fisher-street, near Red Lyon-square.

"To Robert Rockley, Esq.,

At Lees, near Wakefield."

Robert Rockley to Lord Strafford, on the 4th Dec., 1730:—"I am resolved to make everything as you can desire, and to bee as private as possible. Last week Mr. Edmunds sent Mr. Marsden to me to desire

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with advantage, as I did ought to have possessed it; and the many contrivances unravelled whilst I live, and perhaps it may be thought best to act against them rogues in my name, tho' I have now given your lordship my right." She hopes his lordship will do the best he can to relieve her, and let her know her fate, that she may act accordingly. Writing from Calais a little later, she says:—"I just recd. ye honr. of yrs. of the 14th inst., O.S., and have signed your deeds that Mr. Hamilton carys you, and leave him to tell your lordsp. how very unhappy I am. My best hope is that I may not live long, for life is burthensome to one so miserable as I am. I am so out of order that I can't yet take no journey anywhere; and as my spouse is dead, I have no business to live in Paris, a dear place, but must contrive to get my things from thence, if I do not go for them. I have troubled yr. Lordsp. with the enclosed papers, and beg you will peruse them wth. compassion, and

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I would join with them in my answer, but I told him I would answer by myself, and tell the truth, the whole truth, and yet nothing but the truth, and did not own that I had any concern with your Lordship. . . . I doubt not but your Lordship and Cozen Wescomb will be fully convinced that I endeavoured to act an honest part about the equity of redemption of Rockley before, and if my advice had been taken a great deal of trouble and charge might have been saved to your Lordship. And now it is high time to return your Lordship my hearty and sincere thanks for your kind intentions and good wishes to me, and as your Lordship may depend upon itt that I will not take one stepp in this affair without acquainting your lordshipp, so do I most safely rely upon your Lordship's letting me know if any overtures of an agreement bee made."

[Answer of Robert Rockley, Esq., to the bill of complaint of Thomas Earl of Strafford follows at some length.]—*Addl. MSS.*, 22,236, fol. 68, 148.

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if you can do anything for me, be pleased to let me know it by a line to me sealed, &c." *

Referring to some goods which had been left behind on their leaving Rockley, she says: "The goods and coach (the latter being a new one) were taken out of Rockley-house yt. summer before ye agreement was made with Mr. Rockley, by Mrs. Shippen of Barnsley, and my dear mother did order that they be sold to the best advantage. Mrs. Shippen not returning them, my dear mother did order Mr. Rockley to bring Mrs. Shippen to account for ye goods. Rockley pretended to my mother and me, yt. he could not get Mrs. Shippen to account with him for the things she had in her possession, without a suite-at-law, and would have had a power sent him to that end, but as I began to see he was too much governed by Carrington, I thought ye money for those things would be no safer in his hands than in Shippen's, so the matter was left as I have herein told yr. L'dship, still hoping our affairs would change for the better, and we might be able to bring Shippen and his wife to account for what they had of ours in their hands. My dear mother dyed three years past, and I am her heire; so I beg ye favor of yr. L'dship to put this matter in a way yt. I may

* "October 7, 1730. About a fortnight ago, I dined with Mr. Hamilton, gentleman to the Earl of Strafford, who told me that he had been at Paris, sometime before Christmas last, where he had bought for his lordship, of Madame Wescomb, the equity of redemption of Rockley estate, and that Mr. Wescomb, her husband, was lately dead; and that the Jesuits had persuaded her son to go to the English college of St. Omer's, which troubled her very much. She was the daughter and only child of Mr. Rockley, of Rockley. Mr. Hacket married her mother." —*Yorkshire Diaries*, Vol. 65,301.

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get ye moneys, ye goods might have been disposed of for." *

Again, May 5th, 1730, she writes :—"The situation I am in is to be pittyed, and is worse than can be expressed, and unless God thro' yor Lordsp assists me I am for ever miserable, nor do I know where I had best goe to for to settle." †

Catherine Hacket, Francis Rockley's widow, and mother of Catherine Wescombe, also wrote to Lord Strafford on the same subject, as follows :—

"Paris, Nov. 24th, 1723.

"My Lord,—I am informed from Yorkshire, that your lordship has ordered my maid Martha, who I left at Rockley to take care of my things, that she should remove them for that you wanted the house. I cannot give any credit to that information, first, because I know those ordinary people about us to be very guilty to say what is not true; and secondly that I am ignorant that you have any title to my daughter's estate. I have been told that one Serjeant Darnall was to pay off Mr. Wentworth's mortgage; which if you have done I cannot believe you will refuse leaving the house at Rockley and my things in it, in the same situation as Mr. Wentworth did, which I desire of you, if you have the power now; and for my own sake you may be sure I shall not be long before I put order to my concerns there in the country. I am sorry, I am obliged in conscience to acquaint you, that my husband Mr. Hacket's title to my daughter's concerns in Yorkshire, will not be found when scrutinized to be either a just or cleare title, and my daughter

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* *Addl. MSS.*, 22,236, fol. 150, 166.

† *Addl. MSS.*, 22,236, fol. 160, 162.

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has too great a reguard for her family to pass allways over these injustices she has met with.

" My Lord,

" Your Lordsps most humble servant,

" CATHERINE HACKET. *

" My Lord Strafford."

Mrs. Hacket died about 1727, but her daughter, Mrs. Wescombe, was living in 1747, when she was visited at Evreux, in France, where she was then residing, by her cousin, Mr. Robert Rockley, who gives this account of her: " that she had many whims, but was a woman of great spirit and wit, full of politics and projects, by which she ruined herself and her son." She was still a widow, and both she and her son were known by the name of Rockley. The son was at that time, as she thought, at Brussels, but very wild, and without fortune. Brooke says that he was concerned in the rebellion of 1745.

In addition to the Manor of Rockley, Lord Strafford had also purchased Savile Hall, in Dodworth, † of the family of Savile, and the Keresforth Hill estate, which still form

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* *Addl. MSS.*, 22,221, fol. 377.

† Mr. William Fenton, who resided at Savile Hall, in Dodworth, was land agent to Lord Strafford, and steward for his lordship's manor of Worsborough and Worsborough Dale. Mr. William Fenton was succeeded by his son, Mr. Richard Fenton, of Bank Top, who was a man of note, and Clerk of the Peace for the West Riding. He continued to be employed as law agent and steward to Lord Strafford up to the time of his death, in 1788, at the advanced age of 80 years. He was succeeded in 1789 by Mr. William Elmhirst, who was followed in the year 1800 by Mr. John Birks, of Hemingfield, who performed the duties for a period of 60 years.

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part of the family property. The following is the "Stainborough rental for half-year to Martinmas, 1728"—

The Stainborough & Savile Hall tenants	218	14	10½
Wm. Cotton and Mr. Shore for Stainborough Mill and Rockley Smithies for half a year ...	20	0	0
Wm. Cotton and Mr. Shore for Rockley Furnace.....	30	0	0
Mr. Hanson for privy tithes	0	13	4
The Keresforth-hill tenants.....	91	11	3
The Rockley rentals	69	18	1
	£430	17	6½

His Lordship went on with his improvements, which he himself superintended when at Stainborough; and during his absence he left or forwarded instructions as to what had to be carried out, of which the following is a specimen :—

"Wentworth Castle, 27th of November, 1738. Instructions for Wardman. In the first place the Ice House must be filled the first hard frost, the day after Ld. Malton's is begun to be fill'd, & Wardman must settle an intelligence to know when they begin to fill my Ld. Malton's, tho' he pays a man or boy 8d. or 12d. for bringing him word; and then he must ride over to Wentworth, tho' he leaves all other business undone, to see in what manner they work; being what he has not been used to, and the very next day he must set about mine. And as he will find Ld. Malton will have a great many men to fill his Ice-house, Wardman must get as many men as he can to fill mine—not only my own labourers but in short the two Taylors, Wm. Downing, John Brown and others, even though as far as Barnsley, and tho' he gives an extraordinary price—till he has sufficient to fill

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it in a day. . . . Wardman must go on with finishing the Pondhead by Constantine well, and when the raines or floods have made that place too soft to work att, he must carry the men away to work at the two Ha ha's. which I design to have dun this winter—the first is between the Avenue and Town Ing in the manner I have begun it, and if it proves gravel towards the bottom, he must dispose of it before the gates of the Menagerie, to make good the way for coaches to the gravel walk in the Avenue, which at present is but loose clay, & when that is done sufficiently if there is any gravel to spare he must lay it along the Avenue where it is most wanted.

"The next Ha ha I design is yt between the Park and Wilderness up to the Ewe (Yew) Seat to the place I have mark't. . . . The next the stones must be taken from round the trees and the Elm walks. . . . Wardman is to do as I order'd him in ye year 1736, to pick up all the padlocks and the keys belonging to them, and to keep them so as the keys may be found to the proper locks, & when it is necessary to have ye places open that has been padlocked, the padlocks shall be taken away and laid up, and not left open upon the staples to be taken away by the country people as they please. Likewise as in 1736, that carts, waines, wheelbarrows, all necessary things should be preserved as much as possible, and when the wheelbarrows are worne and uneven they should be rounded by the carpenter, and the way to preserve them is to shoe them round with iron, as I will have the wheels both of my carts & wheelbarrows done, & if the wheels break in other parts the iron will serve again for new ones. . . . . .

"Wardman to remember to call upon the joyner of

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Dodworth, first, to lay the boards loose in the Chinee bed-chamber—to lay them down fine and compleat in the Springe, that there be no cracks between them nor no nails seen ;—this joyner has agreed to do them at 10d. per yard which is the price I gave Thornton & Jonathan Goodyer, & other joyners ;—he should be shown the pattern of a green chair, to know what he will do them for a piece, for Bill Bashford promised to make one dozen of them at 12d. a piece, tho' he was but to have 10d. a piece for the last he made. . . . The great ash tree at the upper end of the garden, sho^d. be cut down when it freezes so hard as it may be carried away without spoiling ye grass. The Wilderness Pond should be filled this winter when the Castle pond is full enough, to see if it will hold. When the hurdles is dun to fence the Wilderness and the Hermitage by the Castle, the sheep must be watched for two or three days, to see they do not spoile the new planted firs, and if they do they must be taken away imediately.

"The glass of the skylights over the two stone back stairs in the new house should be mended that it may not rain in as it does, and some invention should be thought of to cover the top of the stairs up to the Castle tower, or else the snow may do prejudice to ye said tower. Care should be taken to turn the water off the roads in the Law-wood, or the water running down the cart rutts will this winter make very deep gutters. . . . . Two puppys of the Spanish Pointer must be given away, one to Ben Wadsworth, & the other to Tomey Beckitt to be bred up ; the two bitches—one must be kept by the Keeper, and the other by Bill Sheppard, and not at my charge. . . . . All boards and planks (excepting those of the house) shou'd be

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laid edgeway and hollow, for if they are laid flat they will rott. The great ladders should be laid dry in the barne, or somewhere where they will not rot as they have done; there shold be a long roller made, and an invention upon it like a great wheelbarrow, or trough for the gardiners to carry off the grass they mow w^th^ a horse, and not to spend their whole days work in carrying it off upon their heads in little basketts. . . . . Mrs. Wardman is desired to see w^t^ beding is wanted for the stablemen and footmen's rooms and to send my Lady Strafford an account. Mr. Wardman is desired, when the family is gone, to look particularly in the stables, and the stablemen's room w^t^ saddles, harness & straps are left, & to lay them up with such care that the ratts may not eat them as they have done hitherto. . . . . [Long instructions with respect to the repairs of different houses follow, and then],—"It is the park-keepers business, after he has taken particular care of the deer, to see the trees are well dab'd, that I have no more of them spoilt, for I have counted every one, that has been bit already; those that are wall'd round he must take care to lay up their stones properly on ye tops of their walls, & to pick up all stones that are tumbled against the trees, because by the motion of the wind those stones cut the barke as much as if the deear bit them. He must have the school children one day in a week to pick up all the loose stones in ye parke, especially those places that have been new plow'd, which they must lye up in little heaps to be carried away either by ye ass & a cart, or a horse and cart;—he and his boy must traine up a little ass to draw the daubing sledge about as the old one did, and he must take care to sprede and throw about all ye mole hills fresh thrown up, that they may not look ill in ye

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springe. . . . In foddering ye deer he must take particular care not to waste any hay, there being but a little stock of it. Till he bys a horse of his owne, which he must do in the spring, he may make use of mumper to carry the venison I shall order, but must not make use of ye mare but upon my particular service, and even then he is to ask Wardman before he rides her, and not to ride any of my horses upon any pretence whatever, but when he gets a horse of his own he may ride it as he pleases :—When he returns from his journey he must send of by the Stairfoot carrier to London half a doe, the other half to be given away as I shall order him ; he is my gamekeeper & has my warrant for the same."

In purchasing the Keresforth-hill estate, Lord Strafford obtained a vested interest in St. Mary's Church, Barnsley, becoming possessed of what was called the Keresforth quire or chapel, which had been founded in early times by the Keresforths. This came to be called the Strafford Chapel, and the windows looking into it Lord Strafford always repaired.* This and some pews continued to belong to the successive owners of the Stainborough estate until the restoration of St. Mary's Church some ten years ago, when on free seats being introduced throughout the church, all interest in them was kindly waived by Mr. Wentworth.

The following rhyming epistle was written by a nephew

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* 1727, Oct. 26. Mr. Blackburn (to Lord Strafford) for glass for Barnsley Church windows 0 11 5½
A Bill of ironwork for the windows of your Lordship's quire in Barnsley Church..... 0 17 2
1745. Elizabeth Pearson repaired windows in Strafford Chapel in Barnsley Church.

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of Lord Strafford's (probably William, son of Peter Wentworth, of Henbury)* while on a visit to Stainborough, about 1728. It gives an insight into domestic life in the early part of last century, and is addressed—"From the Region of Despair, Stainborough, Dec. 5."

"Dear Brother,
Whilst you sit deliberating o'er Law,
In estates, this man's title, others flaw,

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* "Peter Wentworth, one of the most regular of letter-writers to his brother, was in early life equerry to the Duke of Gloucester, Queen Anne's son, and afterwards to Prince George of Denmark, upon whose death he seems to have obtained a similar position about the person of the Queen. In June, 1709, when his brother, Thomas, was our ambassador at Berlin, he offered Peter a post under him, which he declined. . . . Peter married Juliana, daughter of Thomas Horde, of Cote, Oxfordshire, and his country house was Henbury, in Dorsetshire. It is only too evident from many letters that have been preserved, that his advancement in life was much checked by a fatal attachment to the bottle. His own letters, indeed, are incoherent enough at times to justify the suspicion of it. The circumstances of his death, not long before that of his more famous brother, were very distressing.

"On January 13, 1739, Lady Strafford, after writing that she will be going to Court as soon as her brother, meaning Peter, is buried, continues in a later part of the letter :—'My nephew [William] has just been here ; I really pitty him, but can't in the least wonder at his not going to the mews, when he gave me his reasons, for I fear his fatheres affairs are in a very bad way, and he is advised by his friends not to goe into the house, and also to make a voluntary declaration in Doctors Commons that he will have nothing to doe with any of his late fathere's effects. . . . He had ordered the funeral to be just the same as his mothere's, and he is to be burye'd to-morrow night. He said to besure he had a naturale feeling for the loss of a fathere, but own'd he lived in such dayly agony of something even worse than death befalling him . . . 'twas a mercy it pleased God to take him.'"—*Wentworth Papers*, pp. 3, 4, 533.

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Tumbling o'er mighty Records and old Books,
Studying your Littletons and your Cokes;
In hopes of being at least hereafter;
Above or below Lord Chancellor;
Here I saunter jolely away my time,
Do nothing but sleep, eat, and sometimes Rhime;
If I tell you what's done to-day the same,
To-morrow and to-morrow's done again:
At morn to my good Lady I go down,
Who at eleven has huddled on her gown;
We sit an hour sometimes over coffee,
And sometimes trifle with our spoon o'er tea,
Here's alone our trifling variety.
Then in comes Charles and takes away the things,
My Lady's toilet, and work Becky brings;
And Lady Anne does some work or other,
But Clarendon alone reads your brother:
The great historian with wondrous art,
Does not from impartiality depart,
Gives characters alike to friend or foe,
And speaks truth whether it is liked or no:
When we read Hampdens, Pims, and Hothams fate,
We moralise and of Providence prate,
And a tear we shed at great Strafford's fall:
But when on the greater lord of this hall,
Our melancholy then pleased thoughts we cast:
His safety, with joy made them flow as fast;
Thus so with chatt between on I do read,
Till for dinner at two the cloth is laid,
And without formality we fall to.
Says my Lady, help me or I'll help you:
I seldom call for wine, but never fail
Of drinking glasses three or four of ale,
We always remember our absent friends,
They take away and so the dinner ends;
Then up I get, after a hem and cough,
Take the book, and begin where I left off;
So till the candles come I read away,
Lady Anne impatient of delay,

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Says, come cousin, let us at Ombre play.
Then for cards, counter and table she calls,
If they don't hear her she screams and brawls;
Then Lady Strafford, Lady Anne and I,
Soon the triangular table draw nigh;
Out of manners to the ladies I deal,
Have a game with Matadors, lose Codill,
Such luck I have my kings go seldom free,
Once I was very mad they trumpt me three.
Thus from great, to trifles my fortunes bad;
When Lady Anne's lost, like Bristol she's sad.
As wise Minerva with disdain looks down,
From trifling nymphs, to her that wears ye crown;
So the wise Strafford sitts, and smiles with scorn,
To see mee fret, and her pretty firstborn;
Tho' not like Orkneys, or Harveys we play,
Neither do we scold, or jangle as they;
After a while when clear the board we've made,
Without form, on the same, the cloth is laid;
We sup upon an egg, or something light,
That will not hinder our resting at night.
Then Lady Strafford and I sit and chatt,
Till we depart to bed, of this and that;
Sometimes I dissent from her, she from mee,
Tho' not in trifles, in main we agree;'
Thus runs our life insippidly away,
Acting the very same from day to day;
Unless post-days, we thus our time employ,
Writing to friends, life indeed we enjoy:
Sundays too, we've some alteration,
The parson gives a wise oration:
He begins, the people prick up their ears,
With Latin and Greek, fill 'em with sad fears.
Thus I think the life we lead I have told,
To tempt it in verse I've been wondrous bold;
That coudn't of Kings and Courts my story tell,
And besides ourselves, see not beaux nor belle;
Should I Lady Strafford's goodness relate,
My bold attempt would meet with some sad fate,

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As young Phæton, or an Exeon,
Should be punish'd for my presumption :
Therefore those heights I dare not try to soar
Lest so low I fall I can rise no more ;
Nor dare I venture to describe this place—
'Tis paradise, each prospect heavenly fair,
But now 'tis call'd, the region of despair.
By this long scrawl you may easily see,
How the dull hours pass heavily with me ;
Or I should never thus have past my time,
In troubling myself, and you with dull rhime ;
But as it is, take it as I intend,*
From yr loving brother and your friend." †

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* *Addl. MSS.*, 31,152, fol. 84-5.

† The following extracts from letters will be read with interest. Lord Wentworth to Lord Strafford—"March 29th, 1733.—Dear papa,—I hope by this time you are in good health at Suffolk. We was last night at the Duke of Devonshire's, it was a ball, thier was 8 couple, viz., Lady Caroline Cavendish & Lord Sunbury, Lord Heartington & Lady Mary Montague, Lord Conoway & Lady Harriet (the writer's sister), Mr. Walpole & Lady Lucy (another sister), Mr. Conoway & Miss Wortley, a Mr. Webster & Lady Dorothy, Mr. Whitworth & Lady Betty Cavendish, me & Lady Betty Montague ; & we had a very handsome supper, viz., at the upper end cold chickens, next to that a dish of cake, parch'd almonds, sapp biskets, next to that a dish of tarts and cheesecakes, next to that a great custerd, and next to that another dish of biskets, parch'd almonds, & preserved apricocks, and next a quarter of lamb. I hope Ody and Haly is very well.—*Wentworth Papers, p.* 279.

Lady Strafford to Lord Strafford, January 8, 1734.—"We were yesterday at Court ; they thought in the morning they shou'd have had no hazard for want of players, but at last they got the D. of Graffton, Lord Harrington, Mr. Shutzes & Lady Betty Garmain, which was all besides the K. Q., Prince & Princess Royall. There was a ball, but 'twas sad company in the great drawing room, but there was a room keept for the Prince & his company, & when he was going to dance he cam up & said he hoped he shou'd have Lady Lucy's company in

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Lord Strafford erected the castle, the menagerie, the obelisk to the memory of Queen Anne, the building at the Constantine Well in Rockley Wood, and other interesting structures about this time. The turnpike which had run through the park and close past the hall and gardens he diverted outside the park walls, and made the Stainbro' Law road in its stead, by which he obtained more privacy to his park. The miniature castle he built about 1728, naming the towers after his children as Lord Wentworth's Tower,

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his set, & he was sorry Lady Anne Conolly was not there too, for he had a great deal of pleasure in the company of me & my famely; & he asked Lucy if she had got a partner, for if she had not he would get her one, but Mr. John Bosscowin had asked her. The Prince danced with Lady Bab Mancell."

Lady Strafford, in writing to the Earl in 1735, gives a quaint description of his son's (Lord Wentworth) attendance at St. James's, on the birthday of the Duke of Cumberland.—"My love," commences her ladyship, "is perfectly well & vastly delighted with his Court ball. I must begin to tell you all our proceedings. I took him to Court in the morning, and the Queen cried out, 'Oh, Lord Wentworth, how do you do? You've mightily grown. My Lady, he is most prodigiously well dressed. I hope you'll let him come to our ball to-night.' After the drawing room was over, the Duke had a levee in his own room, so I desired my brother to take him there, & the Duke told him he hoped he would do him the favour to come at night. . . . Princess Emily asked Lord Wentworth to dance one with her, & afterwards the Duke gave him Lady Caroline Fitzroy for his partner . . . The King was to see them dance but not the Queen. The ball ended about half an hour after ten; the Duke was quite free & easy & extremely civil, as Lord Wentworth danced with the Princess Emily. I thought it civil to carry him yesterday to know how she did, so the Queen came directly up to me and said, 'My Lady Strafford, all my children are quite charmed with Lord Wentworth; he is civil and well-bred, & not like a child.'"

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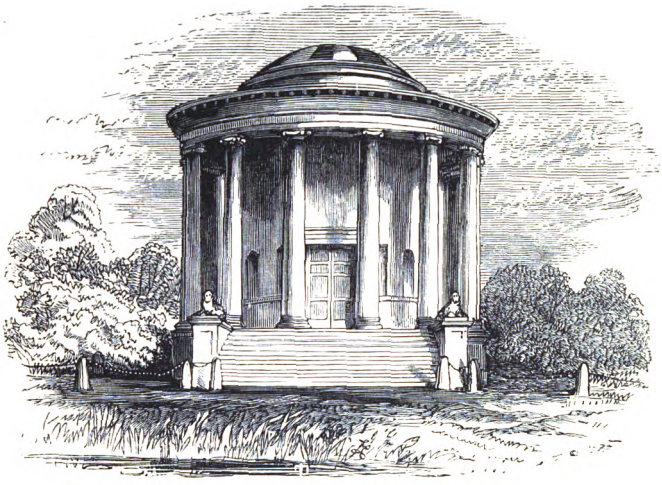
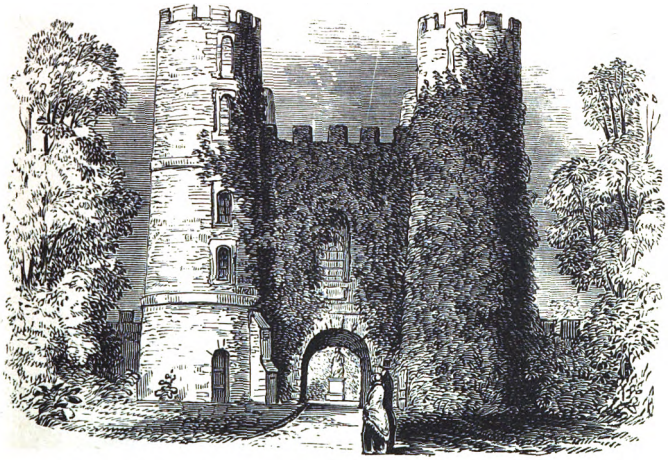


TEMPLE IN THE PARK, AT WENTWORTH CASTLE.



MINIATURE CASTLE IN THE WILDERNESS, AT WENTWORTH CASTLE.

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Lady Anne's Tower, Lady Lucy's Tower, and Lady Harriet's Tower.*

Dodsworth, the antiquary, who lived in the early part of the seventeeth century, writes that Stainborough was the site of an "ancient fortress," of which some considerable earthworks, similar to those of Conisborough and Mexborough, then existed, and the fact of Lord Strafford causing to be inscribed on the castle, "Rebuilt in 1730," would also give us to understand that there had been some previous erection there; and another discovery which was made when the next Lord Strafford was erecting his new front in 1762, will strengthen this supposition. This we give in the following record, which was preserved by Mr. Wilson, of Broomhead: "When William, Earl of Strafford, was making the south front of his house, the workmen, in digging the foundation, in 1762, found a square place walled round like a grave, in which lay a man in armour, which, being touched, fell to ashes. My Lord sent some of the armour to the Royal Society, and to Mr. Walpole, who judged by the form that it was of the age of the Conquest. Mv Lord showed me two

* The castle having become dilapidated through the giving way of the foundation, Mr. John Platts, of Rotherham, was called in to examine it, and on the 19th February, 1755, he addressed the following letter to William, Earl of Strafford:—"I was at Stainborough on Thursday last, and on examining the castle find the whole to be in a very bad condition, for since the falling of the tower there has several fresh shakes and cracks appeared in different parts of the building, so that when the other tower falls, or is taken down, for I do not see there is any probability of supporting it, the whole will be in some danger, for the keystones of the windows and doors are settled, and have broken large pieces out of the adjoining arch stones." Agrees to make the necessary repairs for eighty guineas. A large part of the towers to be rebuilt.

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pieces of the armour, which was made of wire, and studded with silver, one of which he gave me, with two pieces of the cloth, one darker than the other, and some of the bones."

While Lord Strafford was engaged in improving Stainborough, His Honour Wentworth, and his son, the Lord Malton, * was similarly employed at Wentworth Woodhouse,

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* "His Honour Wentworth," as he was popularly called, admirably fulfilled his eminent position. Though distinguished rather for his private virtues than his political interest and influence, he nevertheless sat in Parliament during the greater part of his life, but never for his own county. His true character was that of a high minded country gentleman and conscientious landowner. He married the daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Proby, of Elton; and one son, the survivor of three children, was carefully reared by these excellent parents. His Honour left a special mark upon the property by increasing the religious and educational provision for his tenants; and when his son attained the age of manhood, and married Lady Mary Finch, in 1716, he modestly retired with his wife to Hooton Roberts, and placed the young couple in the family mansion. This, however, had undergone considerable alterations; for the garden front, as we now see it, composed of red brick and stone quoins, was built by his Honour, and it formed a casing to the old courts and chambers of the Tudor structure which still remain. His Honour died in 1723, and his son, who was created Baron Malton, in 1728, and in 1746 had the higher title of Marquis of Rockingham conferred upon him, especiatly distinguished himself as a prominent and loyal supporter of the Hanoverian succession. It was for this very decided and consistent course of policy, that he was raised through several steps of rank to the Marquisate, after having already succeeded to the Barony of Rockingham in his own family, on the elder branch becoming extinct. . . . . It was the first Marquis of Rockingham who took down the old park front of Wentworth Woodhouse, and erected the present exterior, which is a grand facade 600 feet long, forming one of the largest and most imposing mansions in England; and it was from this time called "Wentworth House."—*Wentworth Woodhouse and its Owners, by Dr. Gatty, in Yorkshire Archæological Journal*, parts xxiii. and xxiv. pp. 359-60.

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and a spirit of rivalry seems to have existed between them, and these two mansions, situated upon adjoining estates, were maintained in great state and dignity. The Lord Strafford and the Lord Malton were both men of great influence, and the feeling which existed between them was not of the happiest kind. A local tradition has been handed down to us which we give for what it is worth, to the effect that when the Earl of Strafford was rebuilding Stainborough, he caused to be inscribed on the foundation stone the lines

> "Tommy of Malton, I'll let thee see
> I can build as fine a house as thee."

That a feeling of this kind prevailed there is no doubt, for at the time it was a common topic of conversation throughout the district. The following extract from a letter dated the 7th January, 1732, and written by Richard Wardman, steward at Wentworth Castle, to his noble master, will show that not much neighbourly feeling existed between these two noblemen. He says, "Jo. Bower is now a working steps for the greenhouse and for the Castle. He thinks the price of 4-pence pr foot two little for the Obboliss and to fill it in the middle; for that he did not make any objection at all; but I think he will do it at that price, if he do it but well to please yr Ldship. Last Thursday night we had a great wind, which blowed down our Castle gates, and tumbled them all to pieces, but the Castle itself is founded upon a rock, it is safe and never will fale I hope; but it has blown down all the new planted trees on one side and mr. Arnold kitchen door, the wood palice adese at the gate going in to the new gardin by the orchard, and blown out the old windows in the clock chamber, and one in the old house. That is all the damage it has dun. Next Tuesday my Lord Malton

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is to have a great dinner for all his tenants, and some other of his loving gentlemen, that is parsons and doctors, and pothecaries, and none is to be admitted but what has tickets. I am told that they have killed 18 Does, Barons and Spondones. His lordship has got a man to make him 300 dozen of wood trenchers; he finds him wood and the man makes them, and when the day is over the man is to have them for his labour; and besides, his lordship has taken a great deal of pains to make a nice calculation how they are to sit and dine, for it is thought at least there will be above 800 men that day—and a great piece of folly I say." This sort of gossip would not have been allowed in a dependent, but that he knew it would be acceptable to his master.

The following is extracted from a letter on the same subject from Mr. Phipps to Lord Strafford. It is dated Jan. 23rd, 1732:—"As to Lord Ma's [Malton's] entertainment, I was there and dined att the table with my Lord, att which dined Sir John Bland, Mr. Wentworth, of Wooley, and Mr. Matt. Wentworth [of Bretton], and 5 or 6 parsons with some others at the lower end, being tenants. There was six tables made of deals with benches such as in the tents at Boughton fair. . . . Our dishes stood single the table allowing no more: first dish, roost porke; 2nd, turkey; 3rd, venison pasty; 4th, cold beefe, roast; 5th, fruit pudding; 6th, goose; 7th, apple pie; 8th, a hogg's head in sause; then the course began again and kept in this form to every table. We eate upon trenchers and wood dishes, and drunk in horns; my lord did the same. The horns held near pints and the punch was made strong, and the common people drunk full horns just after dinner that 2 or 3

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horns would make them drunk or sick. . . . My Lord would have me sitt next to Mr. Wentworth, of Wooley. Severall staid the night and some lay ruff. There was one man found dead, supposed to be choaked with punch. . . I did not think much of it after I saw it. We had no sauce but the women had with the Lady. There was severall women drunk with punch who behaved themselves in a very beastly manner."

Mr. Phipps, writing about the County Election, Dec. 4, 1733, says:—"I think if Mr. Wortley wou'd sett up itt wou'd be one way to secure Sir Miles, by breaking Lord Malton's interest in our quarter. . . . Lady Londonderry has the command of severall votes both att Cudworth and att Bolton, if your lordship would please to secure them, & I will speake the freeholds." . . . . May 6, 1734. "Mr. Wortley is very hott for Sir Miles, and has nott rested one day but Saturday last. On Thursday we went to Barnsley & was mett by Mr. Wentworth of Wooley, Mr. Nevile of Chevett, Mr. Beaumont of Darton, Mr. Fenton and severall others, & we had great success. Sir Rowland came to Barnsley on Saturday, upon which a great part of the voters left the town. . . . This day we are at Shffieeld with Mr. Wentworth and the same gentlemen who dined with Mr. Wortley yesterday. . . . . The gentlemen wish that your lordship's affairs would allow your lordship so much time as to take a step into Yorkshire belore the Election. It is supposed that either Turner or Winn will give up before the election. . . . Lord Malton went to York yesterday to meet gentlemen upon Turner's & Winn's account to settle the time of their men's coming into York. I find by reports in the country

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that person is affraid of being mobbed; he has put all his own servants into new liveries, & the old ones he has put upon farmer's sons, so he is double maned. Sheffield mob huzza'd Mr. Jessop out of the town last night, 'Sir Miles for ever & no Excise,' but cou'd nott quiet them but followed to the end of the town." *

Wardman, the steward at Stainborough, was held in high regard by Lady Strafford. In a letter to Lord Strafford, dated 1732, she says:—"Wardman is really a favourite with me for I think him a very alert, clever servant, and in general a good brewer. I hope he will come to London; if he does he shall see an opera and all the Royal family. I wish you would ask Wardman, if we shou'd want Molly Wood in Town, if he knows of any maid Mrs. Wardman cou'd get, that would be fitt for Wentworth Castle, for Nanny Downing is such a nasty—I must be as bad as Mother Needham to keep her."

The following are extracts from letters written by Wardman to Lord and Lady Strafford during their absence from Stainborough. Writing to his lordship on the 20th April, 1734, and referring to the election contest of that year, he says: "I was sent for to Silkston yesterday by Mr. Fenton and Mr. Walker to give a small treat to som freeholders, and we spent five shillings apiece, and Mr. Fenton said yt if we had a meeting at Barnsley before Lord Malton comes

* "Oct. 1733. Sir John Stapylton fell off his horse near Aberforth & died presently, was making interest to be a Knight of the County of York. His seat is Myton. Horse was frighted & threw him."—*Northouram Register.*

His son Sir Miles became candidate in his place, and, as will be seen above, was returned at the head of the poll.

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down, that with spending yr Lordship a ginney or to, we might spirret them up again, for since the Post Office is not got my Lord Malton is not much looked upon amongst them, but they are all riding about and does not leave a stone unturned, for we do think hear that their hearts failes them, and if due care be taken of Sir Miles [Stapylton's] men Sir Rowland [Winn] must lose it. Your Lordship and Mr. Wortley have been expected in Yorkshire very much about this election. If Mr. Wortley had known of the meeting at York very likely he wou'd have gon; if he does not com down our interest about Sheffield will sink for Mr. Bamforth is not able to support the charge, and what advice to give yr Ldsp. about spending yr mony I am not wise enough to judge, but a little at Barnsley and at Wakefield wd look well, and the world wou'd see yr Ldsp. did doe great things and stirr about; it is thought Mr. Spencer does not spend his money freely, nor does not take much pains, and indeed if your Lordship do joyne with Mr. Wortley, they will expect you to joyne your purse with him, for that is the chief thing our country gentlemen want your Lordship and Mr. Wortley to bee at. If your Lordship would have me go over to York, or Mr. Travasse, you cannot neglect one post, for it will be next Fryday; so your letter must come out of Monday night and will be hear of Thursday night. * Mr. Addinell has done all the painting

* The polling commenced at York on the 15th May, 1734, and to York all the freeholders from every part of Yorkshire—as they had for a century afterwards—had to repair to register their votes. Mr. Wortley had also unexpectedly become a candidate for the suffrages of the electors, and the candidates were Sir Miles Stapylton, Sir Rowland Winn, Mr. Cholmondley Turner, and Mr. Edward Wortley. Sir Miles Stapylton and Mr. Turner were returned. The parish clerk of Silkstone

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in the hall ready for gilding, when it is dry, and he tells me he has writ to your Lordship, and will do everything as the York painter did. Mr. Thorp has sent one of his men to saw the marble tables; as soon as they are sawn he will send another man to work them, if your Lordship desires them done soon. . . . We have sunk the foundation for Constantine's well; and of Munday, Jo. Bower will begin and go on with it. That I hope will almost finish this great building, and Guest is almost ready with stones for their house; and when this is dune, I hope to God your Lordship will give over everything but just repairing your tenants' houses."

On May 5, 1734, he writes to his lordship: "Last Thursday we had a great meeting at Barnsley, the great Mr. Wortley, Mr. Wentworth, of Wooley, & some gentlemen from Sheffield & Darfield. Mr. Wentworth sent for me & Mr. Travis, and we went all over the town of Barnsley, & I hope we got the better half of the voters. We had a good diner, and everyone pay'd their shares & then parted; & to-morrow Mr. Wortley & Mr. Wentworth goes to Sheffield, & lay'd their commands of Mr. Travis & me to meet them there. So Mr. Travis & I have considered that he shall go & I stay at home, for

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died through fatigue on the occasion, as will be seen from the following extract from *Hobson's Journal*:—"June 4, 1734. This day died Francis Goddard, our parish clerk. On Munday sevenight, the election being then at York, he was overpersuaded by M.C., Dr. B., and Coll. Foley, to go thither to vote for Mr. Turner and Sir Rowland Winn. He rid in a chair to Tadcaster, where Coll. Foley had promised to send his chaise to carry him forward, but, being disappointed, he went no further."—*See Yorkshire Diaries (Surtees Soc. Pub.)* vol. 65, p. 362.

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it's of a Munday, & a good excuse for me, it being our sale day in the woods.

"The time of election will soon bee hear, and I cannot write to your lordship above once or twise before it begins, and shud be glad to have your orders about the tenents, and other people that is for your lordship interest. Abraham Rock, he will want a horse, & two more at Barnsley will want horses. It will bee of great expence if your lordship was to treat those people yourself, and yet more I doubt if you was to make a purs with Mr. Wortley or Mr. Wentworth. Mr. Travis will go with all your tenents and friends, about Wentworth Castle & Barnsley, at the time when Mr. Wortley & Mr. Wentworth goes, & that will be of the 15th instant. Mr. Travis I doubt will want mony, but he is modest, and dus not say anything; I am afraid his tenent dus but pay him badly. We both appear for your lordship, and is as sparing and as carefull as we can, & what orders your lordship gives us we shall take care not to exceed.

"Yesterday after the other party had heard so many gentlemen had been for Sir Miles, came Sir Rowland Winn & all his crue of people too Barnsley, and a great dinner at Tom Hacksworth's, but we had ours at your lordship's inn at Roper's; but we had a great dale of better gentlemen, but they was more freer of their mony, & spent a great dale more mony than we did; and I doubt got one or two of our men that had promised us. Mr. Wortley takes a great dale of paines about this affair, and this day a great many gentlemen is to dine with him at the Lodge. Just now Mr. Wentworth of Wolly cald hear to know how your lordship did, & with his humble servis to your

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lordship. So he is gon to dine at Mr. Wortley's; & so goes to Sheffield tomorrow to make what interest they can for Sir Miles; but I doubt my Lord Malton purs strings opens more easily than theirs will do; & he has sent & been at Sheffield before them, for he dus not spaire his mony, & I think he will bring in Sir Rowland at last, for it is thought they begin to get men of us now—so much for elections."

Wentworth Castle, May 24, 1734.*—"I got home last Wednesday night, God be thankt, and am alive, and my poor mare; I doubt I have allmost kil'd her; and two horsiss we borrowed, one of John Crawshaw, one of Tomey Walker, and they have broke both their backs, and I doubt will both die. Sir Miles has had the honer of being the very first man chose at this great election, & was carried in the chare about York. . . . My charges will come to about four or five pounds; & if these two horsiss die, it will make the journey so much dearer. I cannot tell what Mr. Travis has spent, but he has lost his horse; he was stole, I believe, out of the stable the first night, and I left him at York in a sad freat. Their was three horsis kil'd or died one night at York. Mr. Wortley tenents has two horsiss by us that is almost dead, but this is owing too carelessness. I lent two of your lordship's old horsis, and saw them to grass at Streethouses, whear they was well taken care off, and is no worse at all. I have found your

* "May 16, 1734. The election began yesterday at York. Mr. Wortley put up for candidate unexpectedly. May 23. At York. Voted for Sr. Miles Stapylton & Mr. Edward Wortley."—The *Journal of John Hobson, of Dodworth Green. Yorkshire Diaries*, p. 326.

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lordship's letter, dated the 14th instant, and you mention that if Sir Miles looses the election you will be rail'd at, and if he caryes it your lordship expects no great thanks; but I cannot think no such thing, for Sir Miles was pleased to see us, both Mr. Travis and me, and I am sure I took as much paines as any man, and rid to Wakefield all night and fetcht up all the old men I cud git; and, indeed, so did everybody that was consern'd, and if we had not been so very active as we wear we had lost the day. Mr. Phipps he hopt about & told everybody Mr. Wortley wou'd come in before Sir Rowland; and I will do him justice that if anybody axt what number your lordship sent in, he crackt & lyed well enough, and so did Mr. Travis, so that nobody did know how meney or fue we had. I cannot say but your lordship will come pretty well of; and if you had joyn'd any of them mor mony had gone, & wou'd not have lookt no better then what your lordship du[illegible]y sending Travis & me; and as we have got in Sir Miles, their is no danger but he will return his thanks to everybody at his proper time, and so farewell elections."*

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* Rev. David Traviss, writing to Lord Strafford, May 24, 1734, says: "Mr. Wortley has done singular service to the cause; and indeed all gentlemen in the interest of their respective candidates have exerted their best endeavours. Messengers were continually sent into every quarter, who brought the halt & the blind in coaches, chairs, & waggons. Mr. Wortley, my lord, insinuates as if there wo'd be no scrutiny, & that Sir Miles must indisputably be a sitting member, which is the sincere wish of all true patriots, & particularly of your lordship's most humble chaplain." . . . .

June 1, 1734. "Sir Miles's success is certainly to be attributed to Mr. Wortley as acting in conjunction with him. Mr. Wortley is vastly

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On the sale of the Manor of Barnsley *cum* Dodworth, as the Manor used to be styled, in 1735, Lord Strafford was one of the competitors, and had nearly been the purchaser.* If he had been successful we should have

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carest by the gentlemen. My Lord Malton has been impos'd upon by his agents; his lordship was made to believe that he wo'd have 1,500 voters, but the number did not answer the calculation. His lordship had only about 400."

* The following letter was written to Lord Strafford on this subject :—

"My Lord,—Mr. Fenton sett out for London on Wednesday last, and has, I believe, a design to purchase the Mannor of Mr. Cooke (Dr. Thorold's representative), and I am apt to think that the Duke of Leeds has the same design. What the issue will be thereof I cannot tell. "JOHN SMITH.

"Barnsley, December 3rd, 1735."

—*Addl. MSS.*, 22,222, fol. 347.

Another letter on the same subject, by the same writer, gives the "Lands belonging to the scite of the Mannor & Grange of Barnsley:

Enclosed land 72 acres, at 25s. per acre	£90	0 0
ffield land—		
In the ffar field.....24 acres		
Church ffield 7		
Old Mill field 2		
Swinehill field 2		
35 acres at 18s.....	31	10 0
The Mannor House, Barn, Kiln-house, Croft, Yard, &c....	12	0 0
Two little houses adjoining thereto	3	0 0
	£136	10 0

Mr. Wortleys Lease of Severall Cottages, and alsoe of the Coal Mines on Barnsley More.

The Coney Warrens late Carrington.

With Thorolds lease of the Mannor of Barnsley with Keeping Courts, the tolls, & several houses.

And alsoe of the Cheife rents & Cottage rents built upon the Waste, Vallue of upwards of Twenty Pounds per ann.

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had a resident, instead of a non-resident, Lord of the Manor of Barnsley. This Manor, which was then of small value, had belonged to the Crown from the dissolution of Monk Bretton Priory to the reign of William III., when it was presented by that monarch, along with other Manors, to William Bentinck, Earl of Portland, who enjoyed a large share of the King's favour. The grant was, however, not made without great remonstrance on the part of Parliament, a great aversion being entertained against the Earl, as he was stated to have made use of his interest and intelligence to injure the trade of England, so that the commerce of his own country might flourish without competition. The Manor of Barnsley, which was offered for sale by the second Earl of Portland was, however, purchased by Thomas Osborne, the fourth Duke of Leeds, in whose family what little of these lands and rights are unsold still remain.

Lord Strafford, a short time before his death, commenced building at Stainborough the circular temple which Horace Walpole says is after the model of the temple of Tivoli at Rome, and which is situated on an eminence a short distance from the hall. It stands on an elevated basement. The dome or canopy is supported by a colonnade of fourteen pillars, and the walls are adorned by wreaths of fruit and flowers most exquisitely chiselled in stone; the floor is of marble.* It was finished by William, Earl of Strafford, and

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£ s. d.

* June 30, 1739—6 days dressing deals for Temple and helping to take down the goulden vase and set it up again at the Temple. Working seven days at it (Henry Ellis, Joiner)..... 0 7 0

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it is said to have been intended for a mausoleum, but if so, it has never served the purpose for which it was intended.

	£	s.	d.
June 23, 1739—Laying the foundation of the steps at Temple, 6 days. (Bower)	0	6	0
August 24, 1739—Rob. Robinson, Plumber, 25st. 5lbs. lead for ye Temple	2	10	10
Mending of Vase and putting it up	0	4	0
Sep. 29—24st. 4lbs. sheet lead	2	8	8
Jos. Bower, 220 feet and a half in the diamond floor at the Temple	3	13	6

In 1744, Joseph Bower was engaged in erecting Temple in the Park, for which there are two accounts, one dated Nov. 3, 1744—£53 17s. 8d., and one later, £35 5s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
1727—Joseph Bower, for the Cascade in the Menagerie	92	2	0½
Benj. Swift, the quarryman, for stone for the Cascade	14	13	5

1734, April 26—Joseph Bower sent in a plan for a building at Constantine Well.

1739, May 19—Joseph Bower, jun., 3 days working at the bottom of the Cascade at Constantine Well	0	4	0

An item in Mr. Addinell's bill is—

To Painting Ceiling at Constantine Well, worth 2 guineas, *content with*	1	1	0
1736, Feb. 15—To Painting the Sighn of the Strafford Arms at Wosperah	2	2	0

—*Addl. MSS.* 22,241, fols. 34,36, 37, 40.

The Strafford Arms, now the Edmunds Arms, at Worsbro', formerly belonged to Lord Strafford, and the inn near the Rockley gates, at Birdwell, belonged to Mr. Edmunds. An exchange was made between the respective owners of these properties.

"At the back of Rockley Woodhouse is Park Spring Wood, and in the heart of the wood, reached by a pleasant walk, is another of these tower-like structures, known as 'Park Spring,' and as 'Park Well Spa,' by old people, who remember it as being at one time a place of great resort by the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages. The water was said

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The following letter written by Lord Strafford to his lady in 1729, will be read with interest. It is dated from Freston

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to possess some medicinal properties, and at one time of the year large gatherings of persons of both sexes congregated. People came from a considerable distance, and refreshments were displayed in the avenues of the wood, after the fashion of our feasts and fairs; bands of music were also present, and dancing and revelry were kept up for several days. What was the object of such a gathering, or what it was held in celebration of, we have not been able to ascertain."—*History of Worsborough*, p. 104.

"This would no doubt be the Constantine Well, the erection of the building of which is mentioned in a previous paragraph."

"March 23, 1726. Abra. Hawksworth bought a pair of fat oxen of my Lord Strafford for £16, who had worked them 17 years, ever since his lordship came to Stainborough."—*Yorkshire Diaries*, p. 250.

Among the "Stainborough Bills," Oct. 22, 1725, is the following:—

	£	s.	d.
"James Bearchshall, for Blacksmith's work, from April 29th to Oct. 21, 1725	6	5	5
Allowed him half a year's rent	6	18	0
	£0	7	5

It is worthy of note that this family have continued to be tenants on the Stainborough estate to the present time, and have carried on the trade of blacksmiths, being successively employed by the different owners of the estate.

Mr. Kenny, for making 103 thousand, and 800 Bricks at Wakefield, and	28	11	0
60 thousand at Stainborough	16	10	0
	£45	1	0
Jonathan Goodyear, for Joiners' work	33	2	4

There is the following entry relating to this person in *Hobson's Journal*:—"June 2, 1732, Jonathan 'Godier,' the joyner, died about a fortnight ago, at Doncaster; he kill'd himself with drinking. He did most of the joyner work at Stainborough-hall, being then servant to Mr. Thornton; as also the best staircase at the Banks [Banks Hall].

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Hall, one of his lordship's seats, 23rd May, 1729.* He says: "I cannot imagine my Dear why you do not like this place as well as Stainborough, for I think at this time of the year it is the garden of the world; it is true the house and gardens at Stainborough are more magnificent, though there is something very pleasant in this house, wch. is extremely

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		£ s. d.
Mr. Hall, of Swaithe, for Malt to.	July 5, 1725	79 0 1
Do.	July 30, 1726	28 14 0
Do.	Oct. 28, 1728	18 4 0
		125 18 1
Paid him in part by Mr. Shore	40 0 0	
Do. at Wakefield	50 0 0	
		90 0 0
Due to Mr. Hall		£35 18 1

"A Mr. Robert Hall, who belonged to the family of Hall, of Swaithe, was chaplain to Lord Strafford. There is a tradition that one of his lordship's chaplains was found dead in the cellar at Stainborough, his death having been caused by excessive drinking. It is not unlikely, judging from the following entry, that Robert Hall was the person to whom this tradition alludes:—April 7, 1731. Mr. Robert Hall, curate of Stainborough, buried at Worsborough; he had contracted a habit of drinking which killed him at last. (*Yorkshire Diaries*, p. 303.) He was married at Barnsley, to Mrs. Sarah Deykin, on the 26th Nov. 1722."

Paid Mr. Deykin, of Barnsley, for Charity Children's Clothes	4 4 0
Mr. Deykin's Bill	23 16 4
Paid him by a Bill on Edward Rock	10 0 0
	£13 16 4

Lord Strafford often drew on Edward Rock, of Barnsley, who acted as a local banker.

* *Addl. MSS.*, 22,239, fol 427.

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well fitted up, and the gardens and the groves very delightful, besides the vast extent of land I have here, which makes it almost a principality, seven or eight miles in length, and four in breadth, all my own, and with five copyhold manors, lying all together, that gives me a great jurisdiction; and for pheasants, partridges, and hares, I have them in vast quantity; besides my decoy which is extremely beautiful; and besides the rent the tenant pays for it, you know the reserved wild fowl I have from it, would almost keep a moderate table, and for all sorts of fish we have it almost for nothing, that my servants begin to be almost cloyed already, with lobsters and soles. This is bounded by the ocean, wch. runs in a straight line, and as it is but four miles from my house, if I had not layed out so much at Stainborough I should be tempted to make a strait walk hither, for you know we can see the ships sail, out of my parlour window. Amber you know we find in plenty on the beach, and my nephew walking with me picked up a garnet, which he had polished, and makes a very fine ring; and since Sir Henry's death I have had two wrecks on my Royalty. I have 3 livings to dispose of on this estate, yet with all these advantages I can't make you like it so well as I could wish; tho' certainly we ought to live here sometimes, since it is the most improveable estate in England, for I have at this time several hundred acres layd dry, by my great sluse, wch. you remember a great sea, and is now of itself a pretty estate, were it improved as it ought to be, tho' now I make nothing of it; as likewise several large manors, out of which I have bought the freeholders, and I really believe were I to live but three years, I might double this estate at little or no expense. Were I to tell this to anybody but to you, they

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would think me a fool or a madman to neglect my own interest so much; but as I have so much to do in improving my other estates, I can't spare time and money to do all at once, and to trust to a steward to do it, one is sure to be cheated. This puts me in mind of a match you talked of as I came out of town for Lady Anne [Lord Strafford's eldest daughter], and were my Lord Portmore as rich as the world says he is, this wou'd be the fittest thing for him imaginable; and were he and his son to see this, they would not grudge staying till the death of Lady Wentworth [Lord Strafford's mother] for the rest of my daughters fortune, since I could immediately put them in possession of this House and Estate, for you must consider, tho' Lord Portmore is a Scotchman, he has no land there, and tho' rich, he has no land in England, for what he has at Waybridge, tho' a good house and fine gardens, it can't be cal'd a seat that can give him any interest in the country; whereas with this, he or his son, leaps at once into a good house compleatly furnished, and a large and plentiful estate, with a morall assurance of being constantly chose a member of Parliament; as well as any friend Lord Milsinton should set up with him for Aldeburg,* for you know your father and his brother were constantly chose for that place till their death, and it cost Low and Plumer

* The manor and advowson became by purchase the property of Sir Henry Johnson, Knt., and by the marriage of his daughter with Thomas Wentworth, first Earl of Strafford of the second creation, were carried into that family, and are now vested in F. W. T. V. Wentworth, Esq." —*Suffolk Traveller, by Augustine Page*, 1844, p. 165.

"The grand feature of the place (about 1810) is Mr. Vernon's gardens; the exquisite taste of which is not surpassed by the vaunted

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£9,000 to break into my interest, when I set up Mr. Harvey on Sir Henry's death, and he was a stranger to the town; nor cou'd that money have cary'd it had they not got a copy of Sir Henry's will, to show the town his estate was left to my daughters, and not to me; besides you know there are two poor Boroughs, within six miles of this place, in both wch. I cou'd have great influence, wou'd I but give myself any trouble about it, for those who are chose there have not any estate neigh those corporations as I have. I hate the trouble of Elections, but I know there is no man in England more adroit at them than Lord Milsinton. This wou'd make him so considered at Court, that with the kind promises the Queen has made you, and the interest he has, with haveing been her Page, I doubt not, but on marrying our Daughter, he might easily be made an English Peer during his father's life. I own that incapacity of the Scotch lords deadens my thoughts of the match, tho' I shou'd like the alliance, for I love the young man, and find him esteemed by everybody; and my Lord Portmore is one that has made a great figour in the world, and is esteemed a good gen[all.] and a man of thorough bravery and honour; but you know what was told us of a declaration of an English lord, with a very great estate, that designs to propose himself, and has declared he will not inquire wt. Lady Anne's fortune is; he likes her person so well, he

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scenery of those near Ramsgate, which it resembles in its prospects, but far excels in the rich beauty of its flowers. Mr. Vernon is Lord of the Manor, and the proprietor of a considerable estate in this and the adjoining parishes, which he inherited, in right of his mother, from the late Earl of Strafford.—*Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. 74, pt. 2, 875. *A Description of Aldborough*, p. 16.

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wou'd leave it to us to make what settlements we pleased; wherefore I beg of you, dear child, tho' you and I like Lord Milsinton's character and temper so well, that you wou'd not be too hasty in listening to propositions about him, for tho' you say you are sure, tho' it shou'd not take effect, it wou'd not be spoke off; but believe me, those things always take wind, and as she has not been named for any one yet, I wou'd not for the world have her talked on as common news. But as I always write you freely what I think, this estate haveing put it in my thoughts how desirable a thing it would be for that family, I could not help telling it you, for tho' for the sake of disposing well of my Daughter, I would sell what I bought here, yet otherwise I protest to you, I wou'd not sell it for forty years purchase; but as the house and that part of the estate wch. was your father's must go to one of my daughters, it wou'd be better for my son to have what I leave him altogether, where his chief seats are, and wt. wou'd it be for Lord Portmore to lay out about eleven or £12,000, which is about what I would sell him the estate I bought here for, to see his only son in his lifetime settled in such an estate as this, with such advantages, and considering the state of their affairs, there would not be such a fortune in England for them, and as our other two girles are not marriageable yet, and there is so good a house on the estate in Oxfordshire, I can with ease secure this to their family in speight of all events, having such hold as I have on this estate, and as I hope with wt. Lord Milsinton has of his own, Lord Portmore cou'd make it up to £3,000 a year for the young couple to live upon. They might with patience waitt for the rest till after the death of Lord Portmore or Lady

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Wentworth. I have tired myself with writing, and I doubt not you have with reading my phanceys, but in the country one must have some amusement, besides looking over stewards' accounts, and this is my most agreeable one while absent from you. So adieu, I can't give a day, but hope to see you next week.—Yours,

STRAFFORDE.

Lady Anne, for whom Lord Strafford would appear to have been looking out for a suitable match, was his first-born and favourite daughter. She was born in 1712, and had Queen Anne for her godmother.* Lord Bolingbroke congratulated his lordship on her birth in the following terms :—"Give me leave to wish your lordship most heartily joy of Lady Strafford's happy delivery. I hope the next addition to your family will be a son, and that he may prove such an one as will follow the example of his father, and carry down without interruption your name to posterity." Lady Anne, however, did not marry Lord Milsinton, but four years afterwards, in April, 1733, she was married to

* "A letter was written by Lord Strafford to Dr. Chamberlain, a noted physician, who attended the Queen of James II., at the birth of the Prince, afterwards known as the Pretender. Lady Wentworth was very anxious to secure his attendance on Lady Strafford on an approaching event of family interest, but, writes she to her son, 'he is so proud, he won't go to anybody except the husband writes to him; and he won't take less than 100 guineas to be always ready to come.' In another letter we read that Dr. Chamberlain 'keeps his coach & two footmen, & is very much courted.'

"On April 10th, 1713, Lady Wentworth wrote that she had sent to Ireland for a wolf's tooth, for her granddaughter, Lady Anne—'none ever breeds their teeth ill that has a wolf's tooth. I had one for all of you.'"—*The Wentworth Papers, J. J. Cartwright, M.A.*, pp. 262, 278, 332.

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the Right Honourable William Conolly, one of his Majesty's Privy Council of the Kingdom of Ireland, and a member of Parliament as well in England, as Ireland. She lived to a good old age, dying in February, 1797, when she was buried in the family vault at Toddington.

Lord Strafford was staying at his seat at Freston, in 1737, when George II. returned to England, after a seven months' absence in Hanover. The King, it was feared, had been lost in a great storm which overtook him on his voyage, but he, however, landed safely at Lowestoft, on the 14th January, and borrowing six horses of Lord Strafford, drove towards London, until met by his own coach. At a drawing-room held by the King the day after, on Lady Strafford being presented by the Duchess of Manchester, the King made a full stop, and said, "My Lady Strafford, I can tell you I left my Lord Strafford in health, and he was good enough to lend me six horses." Lady Strafford, in giving these particulars in a letter to his lordship, says: "As soon as the Queen could squeeze into the drawing-room, Lady Charlotte told me she said to somebody, 'Pray is my Lady Strafford here?' so somebody said yes, & pointed to the upper part of the room, where I stood; and the Queen called out aloud, 'My Lady Strafford, come, come to me, for I must speak with you!' I was a good while before I could possibly get to her, but begged people's pardon & crowded away as fast as I could. So she said, 'My Lady Strafford, I am as well as the King, prodigiously obliged to my Lord Strafford for being so good as to lend the King his horses.' I was sure you were extremely happy that you happened to be in the country, if you could be of any service to the King. I wished her joy of His

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Majesty's safe arrival, and said I was very agreeably waked by the going off of the guns."

As Lord Strafford has given us a pretty good description of his Freston estate, we will give a more recent one of his estate at Boughton, in Northamptonshire, from the *Topographer* for 1789, vol. 1, pp. 349-50. It is given in a "Tour Through the Midland Counties": "We presently saw an obelisk before us belonging to the grounds of Lord Strafford, at Boughton, which we approached. The house fronts the road on our right, and is but a small distance from it, tho' it is only seen at the bottom of two or three vistas, thro' which its white battlements have a very picturesque effect. We entered the gates beyond, to examine the inside of this antient seat and were much gratified." *

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* Lord Bathurst, writing to Lord Strafford, Aug. 31, 1717, says; "I am sorry to find that your house at Boughton is so indifferent; as to the gardens being a little run to ruin, I think that of no consequence, they may be soon brought into some order. Fine groves & large rows of old Elms with a fine country are invaluable things, besides in my opinion to be within a reasonable distance of London is no small consideration. I have almost a mind to make a journey on purpose to see this place, to try if I can't devise a scheme of making itt convenient & habitable for a small sum of money. I think you need not propose to go any further, for since you have laid out so much money att Stainborough that shou'd still be your main seat; and indeed itt is a very fine place to talk of in town, which I have heard say is the right use of a seat in the country, and since you design'd itt for your monument, I wou'd (if itt were my case) make no other use of itt. Pardon me if I show some spleen to a place that keeps you so far from me. But raillerie apart I really think Boughton shou'd not be neglected if itt can be made habitable for a moderate sum of money. There may be times when you may enjoy that, and you might not care to remove your family so far as Stainborough. I'll say nothing of Colston Bassett, but only that I wish itt stood in Boughton Park, or if you could spare itt I shou'd

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Mr. Gough, in his additions to Camden, says: "At Boughton is a small ancient seat belonging to Lord Strafford, who purchased the manor of Lord Ashburnham. From our inspection of the house, which is small, we found it built in the form of an half H, with gables, which the present possessor, Lord Strafford, has carried up into battlements, and turrets, so as to have a very picturesque effect. We entered at the side through a passage into an antient hall, with a screen. This respectable old room is lofty, and the windows high, quite in the ancient style. Here hung a picture of the famous Lord Strafford and his dog, probably a copy of that at Stainborough, the principal seat of the family in Yorkshire. We next entered the area of the staircase; on the right of which is a small dining room and billiard room. The staircase, which is of massy wooden rails, led us to the drawing room, and a few other comfortable apartments. The study we saw in the opposite wing. The whole house is indeed but small, but exhibits sufficient to convey ideas of happy retirement. The luxurious ivy which covers altogether the back of the house, and spreads

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have thank'd you to have lett me have had itt att Richkings; but I don't know how you can call itt a seat, unless you mean that itt is a proper place to sit down att in the way to Stainborough. My notion of a good seat is where there is great parks, fine woods, & plantations, & an extensive command of all kinds of country sports with a dry soil. I think any house good enough to sleep in, & the only magnificence the country neighbours have a notion off is your strong beer & beef."

Lord Strafford purchased the manor of Boughton, Northamptonshire, of Lord Ashburnham, in July, 1717. The house, gardens, bowling green, and spinny, park, &c., for £2,150; the manor £9,000. The present owner holds it by descent from Lady Lucy Wentworth."—*Wentworth Papers*, pp. 243-4.

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over one tower of the front; the perfect union of the whole, both in size and ornament; the broken grounds; the rich trees and pleasing vistas, afforded us a short visit of soothing delight. Yet we were told his lordship makes no further use of it than as a resting place on his way to and from London."

Lord Strafford's health had began seriously to fail and Lord Bathurst, writing from Cirencester, July 17, 1736, says:— "Your Lordship has the pleasure of seeing things almost in perfection in your own time, a noble building & plantations well grown about it, but the most agreeable sight you can see there is that fine youth who is one time or other to succeed you in it. Without any compliment, I like him better the more I see of him & I really think he promises everything that can be desir'd." . . On Sep. 6, the same year, Lord Bathurst writes: "I am in great hopes those waters the bathing in the sea [at Scarborough] and the exercise may have totally re-established your health. I think all the three have an equal chance to be of service in your case; but if these Rheumatick complaints and want of sleep shou'd still remain, I hope your Lordship will resolve to go to London for advice without delay. I am persuaded Dr. Burton wou'd cure you. It is plain that your Lordship's disorder is from the Blood & Juices, that is to be rectified by proper medicines. Your Lordship ought not to be reckon'd above 50 years old. I seriously think you are as young as I am considering the difference of Natural Strength; and if I had the same complaints as you have, I shou'd make no doubt of getting rid of them by a Course of Medicine under Dr. Burton's care in 6 weeks time; I name that period, because I have heard him and other

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Phisitians say that in such a space they can entirely change the habit of the Body in respect to the Blood & Juices. . . . I know you hate Phisick & Phisitians, and love Quacks, but I shou'd think that you have suffer'd enough by them to grow wiser for the future ; I am satisfied that Ward poison'd you, and if the effects of it are not yet quite recouver'd it is high time to consult with those who can remove them. I am very serious upon this affair & therefore write with that freedom which becomes a friend, a relation, and an humble servant upon a serious occasion."

His lordship died on the 15th Nov, 1739, in the 68th year of his age, and was buried in the family vault at Toddington. An anonymous defender of his lordship thus writes of him at the time of his impeachment.*

"In his youth I find him struggling with many difficulties, being under age & without a guardian at the time of his father's death, who dropping off very suddenly left his affairs in so perplext and confused a manner, that without serious application & very prudent conduct, it would have been utterly impossible for him to have disengaged himself. To which might be added his being capriciously, not to say unjustly, disinherited of a great estate, yet his industry in serving his family at home, and his gallant behaviour in serving his country abroad, broke through these obstacles, & together with his marriage have made him very easy in his fortune—without the least imputation of corruption or any indirect practice. How far his Lordship's Education in Courts & the army has allowed him to improve by books I know not, but those great affairs which he has undertaken,

* *The Wentworth Papers*, pp. 34-5.

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& successfully accomplished prove him to be blessed with very wonderful endowments of nature, & to have a clear, & withal as Extensive a Knowledge of business as any one his age can boast of. But what I think should confirm him in the good opinion of all true Englishmen, & for ever silence all reasonable scandals are those many marks of favour by that most nice discerner of merit, King William, & if the late King of Prussia had not been thoroughly sensible of his Lordship's great abilities & firm integrity it is hardly credible that he would have left (as he in a manner did) all his affairs to be modelled by his Lordship's more descerning judgment.

"The late Electress of Hanover, mother to His present Majesty, had a most particular affection for him, which is sufficiently known by all that ever heard her speak of him . . . and it is certain that before vehemence, unfounded jealousy, & the prejudice of party incited some men, whose interest it was to sully his reputation, to do him ill offices, he was very well esteemed by his present Majesty, as appears by his reception of him at the Hague, & the very gracious letters which I am assured the Earl had from him before & since the Queen's death."

In the centre of the area in the Castle-yard, at Stainborough, is a fine marble statue of the Earl, by Rysbrack. The expression of his features is open and dignified; he is attired in a long flowing robe, with his elbow resting upon a pillar, forming upon the whole a good representation of that distinguished nobleman. This statue was placed there by William, Earl of Strafford, in 1743. In three compartments of the base are the following inscriptions :—

"Sacred to the Memory of the Most Honourable

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Thomas, Earl of Strafford, Viscount Wentworth, of Wentworth Woodhouse, and Baron of Stainborough, Raby, Newmarch and Oversley, a Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

"Previous to the death of Queen Anne, our Most Serene Sovereign Lady, he was sent as Special Ambassador, vested with full power, to the Confederate States of the United Provinces, and to the Convention which was held at Utrecht. He was the Commander of the troop of Cavalry called 'The Queen's Own,' and of all Her Majesty's forces, and in the General's office was made Lord High Admiral-elect of the Navy of Great Britain. He was also the Governor of Ireland, and is ascertained so to have been by the Queen's own private despatches.

"How deservedly he was elevated to these honours, his public acts must testify.

"He died the 15th day of November, in the year of our Lord 1739, in the 68th year of his age, and was buried at the village of Toddington, in the county of Bedford." *

Near what is called Green Lodge, or Queen Anne's Lodge, which forms one of the entrances to the park at Stainborough, is an obelisk, in commemoration of Queen Anne, with the following inscription :— †

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* "In the year of our Lord, 1739, the Right Hon. Thomas, Earl of Strafford, Buryed Dec. 2."—*Toddington Parish Register.*

† "1733, May ye26.—Joseph Bower, junr., 6 days, Laying the foundation of Oblisk ..... £ 0 7 0"

(Other items follow.)

"Nov. ye 29, Joseph Bower, sen., for 532 foot and a half of Ashlar measered in ye Obylisk from ye bottom of the seat to the top of the cap, at 4d. per foot 8 17 6

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"To the pious,
glorious,
and immortal memory of
QUEEN ANNE,

"This Obelisk was erected, by her faithful minister, Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, Viscount Wentworth, of Wentworth-Woodhouse and of Stainborough, Baron of Raby, Newmarch and Oversley, and Knight of the most noble Order of the Garter; which said EARL, at the death of that most excellent PRINCESS, was one of the seven appointed by the Act of Parliament to be Regents of the Kingdome during the absence of the Successor, as first Lord of the Admiralty of Great Britain and Ireland, was likewise Lieut.-General of all her Majesty's Forces, Colonel of the First and Royal Regiment of Dragoons, was one of the Cabinet and Privy Council, Ambassador Extraordinary to the States General, and likewise Plenipotentiary for the Congress and Peace of Utrecht."

Lord Strafford left issue, as we are already aware, an only son, Lord Wentworth, who succeeded to the earldom and estates, and three daughters. The eldest daughter was Lady Anne, of whom we have spoken as

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1734, May ye 4.—1202 feet of Ashlar in the Obylisk from the top of the cap of the pedistole to the top of the Obylisk, at 5d. per foot 25 0 8
For filling the Obylisk with ruff stones ..... 3 10 0"
" In the account of Mr. Wm. Addinell is the following :—
Wrighting the [inscription on the] Obelisk first time 0 10 0
1734, May 21.—To Blacking the Letters of the Obelisk after being cut ..... 0 5 0"

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having married the Right Hon. Wm. Conolly; Lucy married, in 1747, George Howard, afterwards created Knight of the Bath; and Harriet * married, in December, 1743, Henry Vernon, Esq., son of James Vernon, Esq., Clerk of the Council, nephew of Admiral Vernon, and grandfather to Mr. Vernon Wentworth, who has succeeded to the Wentworth Castle and other estates.

The following are extracts from letters written by Richard Wardman to the Dowager Lady Strafford during the two years following her lord's death. This was during the minority and travels of the young Earl, during which period she would appear to have taken upon herself some part of the management of the estates. It will be seen

* Horace Walpole, in a letter dated Nov. 17, 1743, thus alludes to Lady Harriet Vernon's marriage :—"Do you remember a tall Mr. Vernon, who travelled with Mr. Cotton. He is going to be married to a sister of Lord Strafford's"; and again, after her marriage, Walpole in his *Correspondence*, Vol. iv., p. 493, in a letter to the Earl of Hertford, tells the following story :—"Apropos, my Lady Hertford's friend, Lady Harriet Vernon (who is stated in a note to be sister of Lord Strafford, wife of Henry Vernon, Esq., and mother of Lady Grosvenor, whose intrigue with the Duke of Cumberland made so much noise), has quarrelled with me for smiling at the enormous head gear of her daughter, Lady Grosvenor. She came one night to Northumberland-house, with such display of friz, that it literally spread beyond her shoulders. I happened to say, it looked as if her parents had stinted her of hair before marriage, and that she was determined to indulge her fancy now. This amongst ten thousand other things, said by all the world, was reported to Lady Harriet, and has occasioned my disgrace. As she has never found fault with anybody herself I excuse her!"

Died, April 12, 1786. In Grafton-street, Lady Harriet Vernon, relict of Henry Vernon, Esq., of Hilton Park, Co. Stafford, and one of the ladies of the Bedchamber to her Royal Highness the Princess Amelia. Her ladyship was the youngest daughter of the late, and sister to the present, Earl of Strafford.

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that the families of Lord Strafford and Lord Malton were now on better terms: "Wentworth Castle, June 22nd. 1740. My Lady,—Last week I went over to Lord Malton's with your Ladyship, my Lord and young Lady's compliments, and my Lord and Lady Malton gives both their service to your Ladyship, Lady Lucy, and Lady Harriett, and wishes Lord Strafford a good journey. I did not see them, but Mr. Eliot went to the farm house, where my Lord and Lady, and some Duke, and one Mr. Vane was there, who is at Wentworth House. I think it is the Duke and Duchess of Cleveland, but I did not think they were coming over to Wentworth Castle, for I heard they were going away in a day or two. I likewise got Mr. Eliot to ask my Lord Malton if his lordship would take some sums of money in Yorkshire, and that your ladyship might receive it at London, but my lord sent word to me that he was very sorry, for he had drawn his banker at London very low, and that he could not take it now, but that if your ladyship thought it proper he would get bills for a month's date, and I said I would write to your ladyship first by this post. I could a got Mr. Handcock, the Doncaster waggoner, to have brought it for eight shillings the hundred, and it would be paid to your ladyship in a week's time; and it is safe sending by them, for they are men that are able to make it good, and is obliged to do it, if they are robbed by the way; but it is a deal of money to give, and I would not do it without your ladyship's orders. Last night Mr. Traviss brought Mrs. Traviss to Wentworth Castle.* I believe they were married

* The Rev. David Traviss was chaplain to Lord Strafford, & Curate of Stainborough,—"1755. To a treat to Mr. Traviss who preached, £0 2s. 6d."—*Worsborough Churchwardens' Accounts.*

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at Doncaster last Thursday. Mr. O'Bryan brought Mrs. Traviss from Doncaster, in a four-wheeled chaise, and a pair of mares. They both ly in my Lady Wentworth's apartment, and get their meat drest in the kitchen, and they have one of the white cows my lord ordered them, to milk, so they will be quite happy."

Writing again to Lady Strafford from Wentworth Castle, on July 7, 1740, he says:

"Last Thursday I went over to my Lord Malton's, with yr. Ladyship's compliments, and the young Lady's, and my Lady Malton sent for me into her roome, whear her Ladyship was drinking tea. There was with her, some Lady Jenkins, Mrs. Wooger, and Lady Ann Wentworth, but my Lady Malton told mee she had been very ill for this week past, but is now something better, and gives your Ladyship many thanks for sending me over to inquire after them.

"This day I went over to Sir William Wentworth's [of Bretton] and he sent for me into his roome, and I asked him for two or three franks, and he very willingly gave me five, and they are very glad to heare yr Ladyship, Lady Lucy, and Lady Hariott is well, and wishes Lord Strafford a good journey, and safe home again, for Sir William told me he did not hear before, yt my Lord was gone abroad. This day the 7th of July I paid to one Mr. Hide, of Wakefield £275 os. od. for which sume of money he will give Mr. Ingram a good London Bill, but Mr. Hide cannot give the Bill till this day se'nnight; but Mr. Ingram knows him to be a very safe gentleman, and the money will be justly paid, and at the time Mr. Ingram will give yr Ladyship notice when it is to be paid. The £275 is Wentworth

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Castle, Kerresforth, and Rockley rents to Martinmas. Last Monday I sold Mr. Hobson of Dodworth 900 fathoms of Barke, at 16 pence per fathom, but he is not to pay for it till 24th June, 1741. Last Monday I see Mr. Cotton, and we took up his Cordwood, which is 127 cords and 12 foot, at 1s. od. the cord, comes to £63 12s. 6d.; so Mr. Cotton will at Michaelmas both pay his rent and this money, and not till after Mich. day. I think it will be much better for me to stay till then before I come to London for it is a very throng time, and we are all burnt up, and we have no grass left, nor water. I am forced to lead the water every day in a cart for the Castle. I shall be five days of going to Ashby and staying and coming home, so what money I get there, I must send by Horncastle waggon, for their wool bill is not to depend on, for they are a pack of cheats."

On the 16th he writes again: "I have sent the Lincolnshire rents by one Thos. Friskney, of Horncastle. I paid him the 11th July the sum of £100 3s. 6d., which sum will be paid to yr. Ladyship, or order, at the Red Lyon Inn, in Aldersgate-street, on the 26th of this July, and the carriage I have paid: The money comes by the Horncastle waggon.*

Again writing on July 19, 1740: "My Lady Wentworth from Brittan came to Wentworth Castle last week, and Mrs. Bosell [Bosvile], her daughter †; they brought some cold

* *Addl. MSS., Strafford Papers*, 22,226, fol. 422. 22,239, fol. 305, 309.

† Lady Diana Wentworth, seventh daughter of Sir William Blacket, of Wallington, and wife of Sir Wm. Wentworth, of Bretton. She died at York, in April, 1742, and was buried in the church of St. Martin, Coney-street. Her daughter married Godfrey Bosvile, Esq., of Gunthwaite.

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meat, and wanted to dine at ye Castle, but my wife told them that my Lord had forbid it, that nobody should dine there, so they dined in the little round place in the wilderness, where the lorell hedge is round about it."

The following letter is from the Gamekeeper at Stainborough :—

"Wentworth Castle, 21 June, 1740.—May it please your Ladyship, I've made bold to send you an account of what deer are in the park at Wentworth Castle which is as below. Theres a great loss amongst the deer in your Ladyships park but not half so much as the rest of the parks in this part of the country; it is occasioned by the severe season in winter and the great scarcity of grass in the spring. The deer which are in the park are very well and healthful, & I hope towards the latter end of July there will be ten brace of exceeding good bucks fit for your ladyship's use. The park begins to flourish very much & I hope we shall have plenty of grass. My Lords horses in the park are well and all the spotted sheep are alive and all the trees about the park are safe and everything about Wentworth Castle. I humbly beg your ladyship will be pleased to consider my clothing for with walking about the park and woods I am got as ragged as a sheep; its upwards of two years since I had any and my Lord was pleased to be so good as tell me I should have a frock every year and a plush coat every tow years, and a laced hatt as other noblemen's keepers had. I shall every day pray for my Lord Strafford's safe return that health and prosperity may attend him, your Ladyship, and the young Lady's which is the hearty wish of your Ladyships most dutyfull and obedient humble servant, WILLIAM RICHARDSON. Old deer in the park 274, Dyed last Winter

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& spring 36, total 310, which makes up the account I gave your Ladyship the second of December last; the fawns are not all dropt so can't send a particular account of them."

The Dowager Countess of Strafford died on September 19th, 1754, at her house at Twickenham, in the 70th year of her age,* and was buried in the family vault at Toddington,† and her will was dated January 26th, 1739-40.

* "Old Lady Strafford—that is the Dowager Countess—had a villa at Twickenham, at which many other ladies met on Saturdays."—*Walpole's Letters*, vol. ii., p. 49.

"Here we picked up Lord Granby, arrived very drunk from Jenny Whim; where, instead of going to old Strafford's catacombs to make honourable love, he had dined with Lady Fanny [Seymour], and left her and eight other women playing at brag."—*Walpole's Letters*, vol. ii., p. 339.

† The following paper is indorsed, "List of the Countess Dowager of Strafford's plate, July, 1749":—1 Tureen and 1 Dish for it; 14 Wrought Dishes, of different sizes; 4 Sallad Dishes; 1 Fish Dish; 10 Soop Plates; 2 dozen and 2 other Plates; 4 Sauce Boates; 4 Salts and 4 Shovels, in a case; 1 Soop Spoon; 2 Prague Spoons, 4 Fish Slices; 2 Sauce Boat Spoons; 1 Epargne compleat; 1 large Cup and Cover; 1 Bread Basket; 1 Cheese Plate and Cover; 2 Waiters; 2 Casters; 2 Cruets with tops, a Cruet Ring, and Pepper Box; 1 Mustard Pot and Spoon; 2 dozens of Knives, Forks, and Spoons, in cases; 2 Marrow Spoons; 1 case with a dozen Knives and Forks, and 11 Spoons; 1 Orange Strainer and 1 Toasting Fork; 6 aggite-handle Knives and Forks and 6 Spoons; 1 Tea Kettle and Lamp, and 1 Coffee Pot and Stand; 8 wrought Tea Spoons, 10 ditto plain; 2 Saucepans, 4 Lark Spits; 1 Writing Standish compleat; 4 Tickets for bottles; 1 pair of very large wrought Candlesticks, and a pair of double wrought Branches for ditto; 1 ditto for ye hand; 1 large plain cup and 1 small one; 2 large Carving Knives; 1 Cream Pott. Plate of my Lord's my Lady has :—5 pairs of Candlesticks; 1 large Salver; 1 Ring for ye Table; 2 Sallad Dishes; 2 Salts. My Lady's French Plate :—4 pair of Candlesticks; 1 pair of Girandoles, 2 candles each; 1 Coffee Pot; 1 Plate Rack; 1 Mazareen for ye Fish Dish; 1 Stand for ye Heater; 2 pairs of Candlesticks, new; 2 pairs of French Snuffers; 5 pairs of Brass Girandoles.

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In it she desires to be decently and privately buried in the family vault at Toddington, near her deceased lord and husband; and leaves all her jewels and the furniture of her house, at Twickenham, to her son William, then earl; £1,000 to each daughter; and all else to her son. Lord Bathurst was made sole executor. Two codicils to this were executed in March and August, 1754, by which she leaves to her daughter, Lady Anne Conolly, "my late lord's picture (drawn by Lens), set with diamonds, and all my Dresden China"; there were other legacies to daughters, and grand-daughters.

In erecting the splendid east front of the mansion, on the design of the Prussian architect, Bott, and introducing many rare and valuable paintings and relics which he had purchased while abroad, Lord Strafford had done much towards making Stainborough one of the finest seats in the county. He had, as we have seen, built temples, columns, and other objects in different parts of his domain, and also a miniature castle on the site of what is believed to have been an ancient fortification; and he now changed the name of Stainborough Hall to Wentworth Castle. The park he had extended, and the gardens and grounds, which he had re-formed, had come in also for a large share of his attention.* King William had brought with him into

* "The following lines on Stainborough were written by John Arnold, who was head gardener at Stainborough from the time of Lord Strafford's coming to reside there up to about the year 1740. He became old, and almost blind, in his lordship's service. A good deal of the planting and the formation of the grounds took place under Arnold's superintendence, and he was held in much regard by Lord and Lady Strafford :—

Of all the places I can name,
Wentworth Castle bears the fame,

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England a new style of gardening, which has been called the geometric, regular, or architectural, and with this Lord Strafford had become enamoured, and Stainborough in his hands soon presented one of the most perfect specimens of the kind.

As up the towers you gently rise
The prospect none can partic'larise ;
Woods, groves, and bowers on every side
For miles, I may say dozens, wide ;
Fine little closes round I see,
Appear like gardens unto me ;
Corn and green grass from them proceed,
On which both us and cattle feed
The little coneys on the hill,
With pleasure skipping at their will ;
Brave herds of deer near to the hall,
Are ready at the keeper's call ;
Pleasant cascades below the hill,
Whose flowing streams each bason fill ;
From thence with pleasure you may see
Strange birds at the menagerie,
Some squeak, some cry—some sing, some squall,
Whose echo sounds unto the hall ;
The gardens are most rare to see,
There's not one plant, nay, scarce one tree,
But what has in short time been raised,
Just where and as his Lordship pleased ;
A spacious house there's to behold,
Which has cost unknown weight of gold,
Where many tradesmen laboured hard,
And ne'er were from their wages barr'd
May Strafford, who did all compleat,
Long live to grace this noble seat,
Under the Providence of God,
May his for ever keep the sod."

Addl. MSS., 31,152, fol. 38.

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In this state the gardens and grounds continued for more than half a century, comprising sloped terraces of grass, regular shapes of land and water formed by art, and quaintly adorned with trees, planted alternately, and clipped to preserve the most perfect regularity of shape. Large gates and iron palisades enclosed these geometric designs, in which the greatest formality and precision were to be found, and where

> "Grove nods at grove each alley has a brother,
> And half the platform just reflects the other."

Immediately in front of the edifice was a terrace, which by means of a bold flight of steps, led to an enclosure, containing an octagonal pool and waterfall, with fancifully shaped trees, and statuary interspersed in every direction. On the south side of the mansion was a beautifully laid out flower garden, and at the back and sides trees were planted in geometric patterns, which formed bowers, alcoves, and walks of the most interesting kind, the castle at the top of the hill giving a finish to the whole. A fine old engraving of the place as it was, about 1730, is to be found among the views of noblemen's seats in *Britannica Illustrata.** But this style of gardening had its day, and a new fashion came into vogue, called the natural, irregular, or landscape style. Quite a rage set in, and in a few years many of the gardens

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* Stainborough Hall. The seat of Thomas, Earl of Strafford, &c., 1730. C. Holzendorf, del., D. Caster, sc.; large engraving. The same re-published, with alterations, by R. Wilkinson, 1800.

Two views of Stainborough or Wentworth Castle, one of the seats of Lord Strafford, by Badesdale and Harris. Plans and elevation. See *Britannica Illustrata*, I, 92-3. Large view, 1730. For a view of Wentworth Castle at this period see *History of Worsborough*, p. 100.

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of our nobility underwent quite a transformation, the terraces, avenues, and geometric figures being superseded by greater variety of landscape, in which the natural beauties of the situation were made to play a prominent part. William, Earl of Strafford, in the next generation, became a convert to this idea, and called in the aid of Launcelot Brown, the most eminent landscape gardener of the day, and under his superintendence the grounds at Stainborough were re-formed and entirely changed. The terraces and gardens as then existing were altered,—the approaches which were then straight, regular, and exact, were removed, and others introduced, in which winding walks, easy and graceful slopes, and other changes were made, in which nature and ease were consulted, and they were altered as we see them at the present day. Water was made to play a more prominent part, and the beauties of the landscape, as forming a part of the whole, brought into requisition. The serpentine canal and the other sheets of water, so judiciously disposed, were introduced, and with what success those of our readers who know the place may judge. At the time Brown—Capability Brown*—who possessed that force of genius which rendered him, according to Mason,

> —— "The living leader of thy powers,
> Great nature,"

was making these improvements, the elegant south front of the mansion had been erected by Lord Strafford from his own designs, and such was the completeness and character

* "The ingenious Mr. Brown, distinguished by the name of 'Capability Brown,' the celebrated landscape gardener, who acquired the cognomen from his habit of saying that the place he came to advise upon had capabilities."—*Note in Boswell's Johnson.*

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of its architectural details as a whole, that the Hon. Horace Walpole says in his work "On Modern Gardening," "If a model is sought of the most perfect taste in architecture, where grace softens dignity, and lightness attempers magnificence; where proportion removes every part from peculiar observation, and delicacy of execution recalls every part to notice; where the position is the most happy, and even the colour of the stone most harmonious;* the virtuoso should be directed to the new front of Wentworth Castle; the result of the same elegant judgment that had before distributed so many beauties over that domain, and called from wood, water, hills, prospects, and buildings, a compendium of picturesque nature, improved by the chastity of art. Such an æra will demand a better historian." But we are anticipating.

The year after his father's death, William, Earl of Strafford, who was then a minor, married Anne, second daughter of

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* The stone of which Wentworth Castle is built, and which attracted the admiring attention of Horace Walpole, has always been spoken of as of superior quality; and tradition has pointed to the Oaks quarries as being the source from which it was obtained. That such was the case the following item from an account rendered by Richard Fenton, attorney, of Bank Top, to Lord Strafford will show :—

"1757. Drawing agreement between your Lordship and Mr. Micklethwait for stone quarry on Ardsley Common, and two office copies to sign, and attending execution 0 13 6

The year above given (1757) was just prior to his lordship's commencing the magnificent south front of his mansion. Lord Strafford employed his own workmen to get the stone, and paid an annual rent of £5 10s. for the quarry which he occupied and worked for many years.

"1762, Dec. 19. Mr. Micklethwaite, a year's Rent for Quarry 5 10 0

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THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM, EARL OF STRAFFORD, OF STAINBOROUGH.

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John, Duke of Argyll and Greenwich. In order to do this and make a settlement upon her, he had to obtain the consent of Parliament. In the *Journal of the House of Lords*, Vol. xxv., pp. 568,583, are the following entries:—"Jan. 15, 1740. Upon reading the pertition of Anne, Countess of Strafford, mother and guardian of William, Earl of Strafford, an infant, about the age of 19 years; praying leave to bring in a Bill, to enable the said Earl to make a settlement upon his intended marriage with the Lady Anne Campbell, second daughter of the Duke of Argyll and Greenwich, notwithstanding his infancy; it is ordered that the consideration of the said petition be, and is hereby referred; and on the 19th of March following, the Lord Delawarr reported from the Lords' Committee, That they had considered the said Bill, and examined the allegations thereof, which they found to be true; that the parties concerned had given their consent; and that the Committee had gone through the Bill and made some amendments thereto." Which being read by the Clerk was agreed to by the House.

After his lordship's marriage, he spent a lengthened honeymoon on the Continent, visiting many foreign cities, and we get a glimpse of him in the correspondence of Lady Mary Wortley Montague, during his absence. Lady Mary, writing from Rome on the 13th January, 1740-1, says:—"Here are some young English travellers, among them Lord Strafford, who behaves himself very modestly and genteelly, and has lost the pertness he acquired in his mother's assembly."* In a letter to Lady Pomfret, dated

* A note adds that "he built the south front of Wentworth Castle, in Yorkshire, and was eminently skilled in architecture and vertu."—*Letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montague (Lord Wharncliffe's Edition)*, Vol. ii., pp. 255, 297, 329.

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Leghorn, March 3rd, in the same year, Lady Mary writes:—"I am extremely sorry, dear madam, that things have turned out so unluckily, to hinder me the pleasure of your conversation; I really believed Lord Strafford intended to go straight to Florence, instead of which he has been at Leghorn, Pisa, and Lucca, which has occasioned these mistakes." Writing in October, 1743, she says:—"Lady Oxford wrote to me last post, that Lord Strafford was then with her; she informs me that the Duke of Argyll is in a very bad state of health."

Lord Strafford returned to England, and having attained his majority, took his seat in the House of Lords on the 21st March, 1742. There is the following entry under this date in the Journal of the House of Lords:—"William, Earl of Strafford, sat first in Parliament after the death of his father, Thomas, Earl of Strafford; having at the table taken the oaths, and made and subscribed the declaration, and also taken and subscribed the oath of abjuration, pursuant to the statutes."

Lord Strafford was proud of his wife, and of his alliance with the Campbells, and the death of his father-in-law, the Duke of Argyll, in 1743, he much deplored.* The Duke

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* On the death of the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, Lord Strafford became possessed, in right of his wife, of one fourth of their family plate, which is given in the following list:—

"List of Plate, the property of the Right Hon. the Earl of Strafford, being one-fourth part of the late Duchess of Argyll's:—

	oz.	dwts.	per oz.	£	s.	d.
1 pr of candlesticks, square bottoms ..	48	5	at 5s. 6d.	13	5	4
1 pr. chased do., round sockets	53	15	,,	15	9	0
1 do., square feet	47	10	,,	13	5	2
6 doz. of plates	1360	10	,,	393	19	6

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had been a warm friend and contemporary of the late Lord Strafford, with whom he had gone through the Marlborough

	oz. dwts.	per oz.	£ s. d.
1 doz. plates, with Duke's Arms	163 0	,,	45 10 1
4 sauce boats	78 10	,,	22 11 4½
2 setts of casters	71 0	,,	20 2 4
2 dish rings	25 10	,,	7 4 6
1 coffee pot	18 0	,,	5 0 6
6 large sconces	935 0	,,	261 0 5
1 chocolate pot	43 10	,,	9 15 9
2 oval dishes & 2 strainers.....	66 0	,,	18 8 6
6 sconces	237 0	,,	56 5 9
2 poringers and covers	42 0	,,	11 18 0
2 saucepans	38 0	,,	10 15 4
9 scollopt dishes	127 10	,,	36 18 5
1 chamber pot.....	26 0	,,	7 7 4
1 small cup and cover	17 15	,,	5 0 7
1 inkstand	62 5	,,	17 17 11
1 pr. figured candlesticks	123 5	,,	33 17 10½
1 do. of large do.	185 15	,,	51 1 7½
4 soop spoons	23 10	,,	6 14 1
1 orange strainer.....	3 8	,,	0 18 10
2 soop spoons	15 8	,,	4 6 0
1 egg coffee pot	38 0	,,	10 12 2
10 tea spoons	4 12	,,	1 5 8
4 salts and spoons..	9 0	,,	2 9 6
1 pair of candlesticks	35 5	,,	9 16 10
Teapot and stand	26 0	,,	7 7 0
2 soop spoons	15 12	,,	3 18 0
5 bottle tickets.....	2 4	,,	0 13 0
GILT PLATE.			
Teapot	21 0	,,	6 0 9
8 dishes	80 5	,,	19 1 2
1 doz. of plates.....	232 10	,,	67 16 3
			1197 15 6½

Note.—The total amount of the whole was £4788 15 4
¼ part ..... 1197 3 10."

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campaigns ;* and to mark the high esteem in which he held his grace, William Earl of Strafford, in a conspicuous part of the park at Wentworth Castle, towering high "mid tufted trees," erected a magnificent Corinthian column,† which was dedicated to the memory of Argyll, whose great merits Pope sums up in the following couplet:

> "Argyll the State's whole thunder born to wield,
> And shake alike the senate and the field."

The duke's daughters ‡ were amongst the most beautiful women of that period, and Lady Strafford in particular was highly extolled and admired. She is one of the

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* Writing on the 21st February, 1711, to congratulate the Duke of Argyll on the command of the Queen's forces in Spain, Lord Strafford, then Lord Raby, adds: "As I have the honour of knowing you long I must take the liberty to say there is nothing I have longed for more than the ambition of that command; since naturally it had fallen to my share, had I not been sent (with show of friendship) hither, to this scribbling trade, from my command in Flanders, for my regiment to be sent over into Spain to make way for others to come in their room to Flanders. . . and I do protest that I came here with reluctance, & continued every year since soliciting with importunity my return, as promised, to my post in the army, but as your grace sees, in vain. I beg you to believe me that there is no man in Great Britain (since I have lost all hopes myself) that I had rather had that command than your grace."

† The Argyll column erected in 1743. In December of that year there is a detailed account for mason work for column, pedestal, plinth, etc., done by Joseph Bower, amounting to £27 12s. 6d.

‡ Caroline, married first to Francis, Earl of Dalkeith, eldest son of Francis, Duke of Buccleuch; and secondly to Charles Townshend, Esq., second brother of the Lord Townshend, and her ladyship was created Baroness Greenwich. Anne married William, Earl of Strafford. Betty married James Stuart Mackenzie, brother to John, Earl of Bute. Mary, the youngest, married Edward, Viscount Coke, heir apparent to Thomas, Earl of Leicester, and to his mother, Margaret, Baroness Clifford, who left her a widow without issue.

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constellation of beauties, described by Horace Walpole in his epistle to Eckhardt, the painter :—

" The Crescent on her brow display'd
In curls of loveliest brown inlaid,
With every charm to rule the night,
Like Dian, Strafford wooes the sight ;
The easy shape, the piercing eye,
The snowy bosom's purity,
The unaffected gentle phrase
Of native wit in all she says ;
Eckhardt, for these thy art's too faint,
You may admire but cannot paint."

Lady Strafford was present at the coronation of George III., and Walpole speaks of her in one of his epistles as being "the perfectest little figure of all;"—in fact, the Campbell sisters were so noted for, and so long preserved, their beauty—that the same authority called them "huckaback beauties"—that is, beauties that never wear out.*

The following acrostic was addressed

" To the Right Honourable the Countess of Strafford, at Boughton, in Northamptonshire."

" Strafford : Illustrious Peeress, truly Great,
Time shall Her shining character Compleat ;
Rich in her Virtues in her conduct Bright,
All that is worthy Praise in Her Unite ;

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* " I passed all the last week at Park Place, where one of the bravest men in the world, who is not permitted to contribute to our conquests, was indulged in being the happiest, by being with one of the most deserving women—for Campbell goodness no more wears out than Campbell beauty—all their good qualities are huckaback. You see the Duchess has imbibed so much of their durableness (Lady Strafford's mother), that she is good humoured enough to dine at a Tavern at 76. —Walpole to Lord Strafford, Oct. 30, 1759.

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Form'd by kind Nature with a Stately Mien,
Features that please and show a mind Serene;
Omitting nothing that Her Life can Grace,
Regarding Wisdom's Rules in ev'ry Place;
Deathless Her Love to Strafford and His Race."

Lord Strafford was no statesman, and took little part in the affairs of the nation. As a magistrate, however, he evinced an interest in county and local matters, and, inheriting the tastes of his predecessor, he went on improving his estate at Stainborough, where, in a dignified retirement, he spent much of his time. He was a member of the Royal Society, and cultivated the acquaintance of a large circle of men of letters.* He was a lover of architecture,

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* In an article on Gibbon's carving, which appeared in *Notes and Queries*, 4th Series, iii., 573, it is stated that Mrs. Oldfield, the actress, had the Earl of Strafford, a whole length figure, finely carved in ivory by Gibbon.

"His Lordship, in a letter dated March 27, 1746, calendered in *Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts*, second report, mentions the first appearance of the new dancer, Violetti, afterwards Mrs. Garrick. He says: 'She surprised the audience at her first appearance on the stage; for at her beginning to caper she showed a neat pair of black velvet breeches, with roll'd stockings; but finding they were unusual in England, she changed them the next time for a pair of white drawers."—C. *Notes and Queries*, 4th Series, vol. viii., p. 242.

"THE EARL OF STRAFFORD.—The late Dr. Taylor, residentiary of St. Paul's, who died April 4, 1766, as he was a most excellent Grecian, put upon a silver cup, in Greek,

'I hate a guest that remembers all that passes;'

and on another, a tumbler for malt liquor,

'To Ceres, the furnisher of wine;'

and on his tobacco box,

'I waste whilst I give pleasure.'

An acquaintance of his, observing this, said to him one day, 'Doctor, you are so fond of your Greek, you put me in mind of the late Earl of

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as has been said, and, along with his most intimate friend, Horace Walpole, spent much time and money in the gratification of his taste. We often get a peep of his home life in Walpole's correspondence.

Walpole visited Wentworth Castle in 1756, before the erection of the south front, and from that place, in company with Lord Strafford, visited Wortley, Wharncliffe, Pomfret, Ledstone, Kirkstall Abbey, Worksop, Kiveton, Welbeck, Wentworth, and other places, and wrote descriptions of them to Richard Bentley, which will be found in *Walpole's Correspondence*, vol. iii., p. 234, etc.* Of Wentworth Castle he says: "This place is one of the very few that I really like; the situation, woods, views, and the improvements are perfect in their kind; nobody has a truer taste than Lord Strafford. . . . The house is a pompous front screening an old house; it was built by the last Lord, on a design of the Prussian Architect Bott, who is mentioned in the King's Memoires de Brandenburg, and is not ugly; the only pair of stairs is engrossed entirely by a gallery of

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Strafford, who, after he was made Knight of the Garter, put the Garter on all his shovels, wheelbarrows, and pickaxes;' and the doctor was vastly pleased with the remark."—*Pegge's Anonyiana*, v. xc.

* Horace Walpole to the Earl of Strafford:—"Strawberry Hill, June 6th, 1756.—My Dear Lord,—I am not sorry to be paving my way to Wentworth Castle by a letter, where I suppose you are by this time, and for which I waited. Tylney has but one pair of gold pheasants, but promises my Lady Strafford the first fruits of their love. He gave me hopes of some pied peacocks sooner, for which I asked directly, as one must wait for the lying-in of the pheasants." Asks Lord Strafford for the route to Wentworth Castle. Walpole, in a later letter, complains of the state of the roads in Yorkshire. "They are insufferable," he says, "they mend them—I should say spoil them—with large pieces of stone."

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180 feet, on the plan of that of the Colonna Palace at Rome; it has nothing but four modern statues, and some bad portraits,* but on my proposal is going to have books at each end. The hall is pretty, but low; the drawing-room handsome; there wants a good eating room and staircase; but I have formed a design for both, and I believe they will be executed—that my plans should be obeyed when yours are not! I shall bring you a grand plan for a gothic building, which I have proposed you shall draw for a little wood, but in the manner of an ancient market cross. Without doors all is pleasing; there is a beautiful (artificial) river, with a fine semi-circular wood overlooking it, and the Temple of Tivoli placed happily on a rising towards the end. There are obelisks, columns, and other buildings, and above all, a handsome castle in the true style, on a rude mountain, with a court and towers; in the castle yard a statue of the late earl who built it. Without the park is a lake on each side, buried in noble woods."

In 1757, when Lord Strafford was erecting his temple in the grounds at the Menagerie, Walpole writes, July 4: "I hoped to have had a few bricks from Prague to send you towards building Mr. Bentley's design, but I fear none will come from thence this summer. Thank God, the happiness of the menagerie does not depend upon administrations or victories. . . . Are your charming lawns burnt up like our humble hills? Is your sweet river as low as our

* "Walpole, in saying the portraits were 'bad,' appraised them at a much lower rate than they deserved. Besides this, many of these works have gained historic value during the century that has elapsed since he wrote."—*Athenæum.*

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deserted Thames? I am wishing for a handful or two of those floods that drowned me all the way last year from Wentworth Castle. I beg my best compliments to my Lady Strafford, and my best wishes that every pheasant and peacock's egg may produce as many colours as a harlequin jacket." At a later date, writing from Wentworth Castle to the Countess of Ailesbury, Walpole says: "I arrived here last night, and found only the Duke of Devonshire, who went to Hardwicke this morning; they were down at the menagerie, and there was a clean little pullet, with which I thought his Grace looked as if he should be glad to eat a slice of Whichnover bacon. We follow him to Chatsworth to-morrow, and make our entry to the public dinner, to the disagreeableness of which I fear even Lady M—— will not reconcile me. . . . My Gothic building, which my Lord Strafford has executed in the menagerie, has a charming effect. There are two bridges built besides; but the new front is little advanced." Writing to George Montague, Esq., Sep. 1, 1760, he says: "Lord Strafford has erected the little Gothic building which I got Mr. Bentley to draw. I took the idea from Chichester Cross. It stands on a high bank in the menagerie between a pond and a vale, totally bowered over with oaks.* I went with

* "Within the menagerie, at the bottom of the park, is a most pleasing shrubbery, extremely sequestered, cool, shady, and agreeably contrasted to that by the house, from which so much distant prospect is beheld; the latter is what may be called fine, and the former is pleasingly agreeable. We proceeded through the menagerie (which is pretty well stocked with pheasants, &c.) to the bottom of the shrubbery, where is an alcove in a sequestered situation; in front of it the body of a large oak is seen at the end of a walk, in a pleasing style. This shrubbery, or rather plantation, is spread over two fine

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the Straffords to Chatsworth, and staid there four days; there were Lady Mary Coke (sister to Lady Strafford), Lord Besborough and his daughters, Lord Thomond, Mr. Boufoy, the Duke,* the old Duchess, and two of his brothers. Would you believe that nothing was ever better humoured than the ancient grace. She staid every evening till it was dusk in the skittle ground keeping the score, and one night when the servants had a ball for Lady Dorothy's birthday, we fetched the fiddler into the drawing-room, and the Dowager herself danced with us."

When William, Earl of Strafford, commenced the erection of his south front at Wentworth Castle, it was from his own designs, assisted by Horace Walpole, who was deeply

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slopes, the valley between which is a long winding hollow dale, exquisitely beautiful; the banks are thickly covered with great numbers of very fine oaks, whose noble branches, in some places, almost join over the grass lawn, which winds through the elegant valley; at the upper end is a Gothic temple, over a little grot, which forms an arch, and together have a most pleasing effect; on a near view this temple is found a light, airy, and elegant building. Behind it is a sheet of water surrounded by hanging wood in a beautiful manner; an island in it prettily planted; and the bank on the left side rising elegantly from the water, and scattered with fine oaks. From the seat of the river God the view into the park is pretty, congenial with the spot, and the temple caught in a proper style."—*Tour of Mr. Arthur Young*, 1773.

* Walpole to the Earl of Hertford, April 5, 1764: "In the evening the Duke of Devonshire came with the Straffords from t'other end of Twickenham, and drank tea with us; they had none of them seen the gallery since it was finished [at Walpole's villa]; even the chapel was new to the Duke, and he was so struck with it, that he desired to offer at the shrine an incense pot of silver filagree." The Duke of Devonshire, who was a great friend of Lord Strafford's, died the same year, and left his lordship a legacy of £200.

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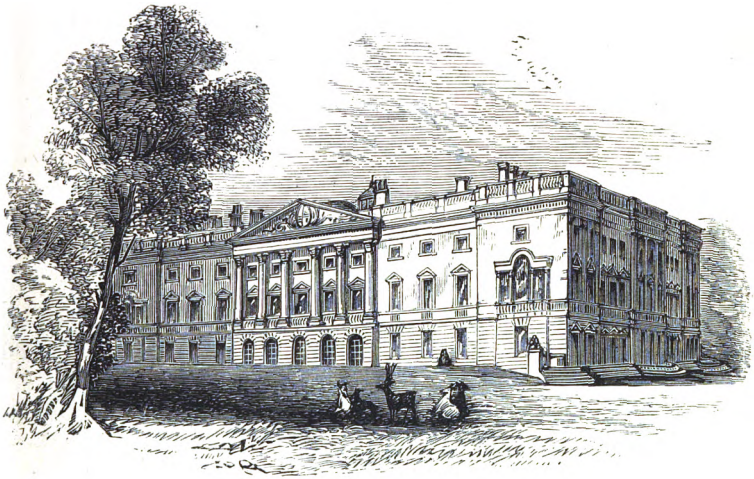

South View of Wentworth Castle.

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interested in the project. We have seen a memorandum of agreement, dated May 20, 1759, between the Earl and one Charles Ross. The said Ross, in consideration of the sum of £200, was to superintend his Lordship's building in Yorkshire; he was to come over to Stainborough in September in that year, twice the following year, and twice in 1761, and to stay there each time a week; he was also to provide a clever man that understood drawing, and the several branches of the building trade, to be kept at the expense of the said Ross, for six months in each of the two last years; and who was to be immediately changed if he displeased his lordship; the said Ross was to answer all letters, and to draw what plans were required relating to the building. The time fixed in the agreement was afterwards extended for two years longer, or till such time as the whole of the work should be complete.* The Bowers and their men were employed to do the rough mason work,† while a Mr. John Platt, who has been mentioned before as of Rotherham, was employed to execute the superior work connected with the front, as will be seen from the following:—

"The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Strafford to John Platt.

1760.		£	s.	d.
Oct. 8.	To the first measurement of Mason work to ye top of ye Fatien.....	124	14	10
1761.				
Dec. 19.	Do. of the Entablature only	89	2	8

* Charles Ross received of Lord Strafford, 1761, £50; March 5, 1762, £50; March 18, 1763, £50; and February 17, 1764, £50.

† Joseph Bower during these years was sending in his accounts for work done.

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		£	s.	d.
Sep. 11.	Do. of the front wall in the centre of the front	58	12	0½
1762.				
Aug. 13.	To do. the whole of the building from the top of the Fatien to the top of the Chimneys, inclusive of the Entablature as far as is now covered in	367	8	5
	To cash received for over payment of a rough measurement	2	4	3
		642	2	2½

"Sep. 8, 1762. I hereby agree to execute the carved work in ye pedestal of the Grand Portico at Wentworth Castle New Front, according to the model, for the sum of Forty Five Pounds. JOHN PLATT."

"Estimates for Chimney Pieces to the new apartments at Wentworth Castle:—

	£	s.	d.
My Lord's Own Room	21	0	0
My Lord and Lady's Bedchamber	13	0	0
The Library	34	7	0
My Lady's Own Room	43	10	0
Parlour or 3rd Room	25	0	0
2 sets of Marble to fix grates in	6	19	0
	143	16	0
By My Lord's Cube Marble	30	0	0
	£113	16	0

His Lordship being at the expense of carriage."

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Writing to Lord Strafford, in 1759, Horace Walpole says: "I hear your lordship has tapped your magnificent front. . . . . It would be very extraordinary indeed if I was not glad to see one whose friendship does me so much honour as your lordship's, and who always expresses so much kindness to me. I have an additional reason for thanking you now, when you are erecting a building after the design of the Strawberry Committee. It will look, I fear, very selfish if I pay it a visit next year; and yet it answers so many selfish purposes that I certainly shall."

Lord Strafford was a neighbour of Walpole's, at Twickenham, where both had villas. At the time Lord Strafford was erecting his new front, Walpole was building his new Gothic villa at Strawberry-hill, and in their building operations they acted much in concert. In due course the new front at Stainborough was completed, and several years afterwards Young, in his Northern Tour, pronounced it to be "one of the most beautiful in the world." It is chiefly in the Corinthian order, the lower or basement story being in the rusticated style, and in like manner to the east front. It is divided into five divisions; the centre one projecting beyond the line of the end division, forms a fine portico, the upper part of which contains a graceful triangular pediment, with an elegant entablature, supported on six beautiful fluted Corinthian columns, which, resting on the rusticated story, has a most happy effect. The tympanum of the pediment exhibits the crest of the Wentworths, surrounded by a wreath, and is exceedingly light and well proportioned. The mansion now comprised two principal fronts, forming two sides of a square with the old Stainborough Hall, of the

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period of the Everinghams and the Cutlers,* occupying the inner side of the angle, leaving a sufficient space betwixt it and the more modern erections to form a quadrangular court by which light and air are admitted into the interior parts of the building.

The north east front, built by the first lord, 50 years before, is of the Grecian Doric order of architecture, and is formed into five divisions. The centre and two end ones rather project, and are ornamented with pillars in relief, resting on the first story, and supporting the entablature. The entrance to the grand hall occupies the lower part of the central division, and is reached by a bold flight of steps, other imposing flights occupying each end of the front. In the upper part of the division, and immediately over the entrance, is displayed some fine sculpture in alto relievo of the armorial bearings within the garter, with the supporters, coronet, crest, motto, etc., of Lord Strafford; in other divisions there is also a profusion of ornamental stone-work, exceedingly well executed, consisting of flowers and foliage, baskets of fruit, allegorical emblems of abundance, and other devices, the whole uniting in forming a front of an imposing and massive appearance, to which an air of lightness is given by its numerous windows, and the balustrade by which it is surmounted. The following is a tourist's description of Stainborough in the latter part of the last century :—

* According to an indenture dated 1567, some improvements, if not the enlargement or re-erection of the Stainborough Hall of that day, was taking place, as it was settled therein that James and Thomas Parkin, of Worsborough, for particular windows they were to erect for Henry Everingham, of Stainborough, were to procure for the purpose some of the best and most suitable stone from the remains of the dissolved monastery of Monk-Bretton.

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"We soon afterwards reached an obelisk, directing our way, through a well-clumped avenue, across a heath, to the groves which encompass Wentworth Castle, the fine seat of the Earl of Strafford. Much beauty as well as grandeur is exhibited in the approach, which partakes of the rural and forest-like species of scenery, but somewhat ornamented, till it terminates in a spacious park, where a profusion of wood and water appear most judiciously disposed, and the two grand fronts of the house burst on the sight with almost unequalled magnificence. The great pile of building exhibits a happy specimen of the architecture prevailing in two different ages, which yet sufficiently correspond with each other to please the eye when united. The old front is a very extensive, bold, plain building, containing several good apartments, together with the hall and a magnificent gallery, extending through the house, and supported at each end by two pillars of foreign marble.

"The view from the windows of this noble room is enchantingly striking, commanding the whole vale with its opposite hills, and decorated with several ornamental buildings, where the verdant lawn of the park sloping gradually to a great sheet of water, so disposed as to assume the form of a serpentine river, and surrounded by noble groves of oak, descending on each side of the house, strongly contrasts with the wilder features of the distant prospect. The new front, forming an angle with the other, exhibits a beautiful specimen of the Grecian taste, in its chaste decoration, and its highly finished portico, resting on fluted Corinthian pillars.

"If I could mark a defect, it would consist in the frames of the windows being burnished with gold, which, though admissible in such a house as Chatsworth, is not

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compatible with the taste of a more modern building. The new apartments also, which are yet in an unfinished state, are too uniform in point of size to equal the grandeur of the exterior. The gardens of this place, rising above the house, are well laid out, and are crowned with a high building imitating a castle, which contains a handsome room, and commands an unbounded prospect over a fine country; to embellish which, the beauty of the park and its adjacent woods contribute not a little."

The following is extracted from Mr. Arthur Young's description of Wentworth Castle in 1771 :— "The new front to the lawn is one of the most beautiful in the world; it is surprisingly light; the portico, supported by six pillars of the Corinthian order, is exceedingly elegant; the triangular cornice, enclosing the arms, is as light as possible; the balustrades give a fine effect to the whole building, which is exceeded by few in the unity of its parts, and that pleasing simplicity which must strike every beholder. The hall is forty feet by forty, the ceiling supported by very handsome Corinthian pillars, and divided into compartments by cornices elegantly worked and gilt, the divisions being painted in a very pleasing manner. . . . But Wentworth Castle is more famous for the beauties of its ornamental environs than for the house, though the front is superior to many. The water and woods adjoining are sketched with great taste. The first extends through the park in a meandering course, and wherever it is viewed, the terminations are nowhere seen, having everywhere the effect of a real and very beautiful river—the groves of oak fill up the bend of the stream in a most beautiful manner—here advancing thick to the very banks of the water, there appearing at

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a distance, breaking away to a few scattered trees in some spots, and in others joining their branches into the most solemn brownness. The water in many places is seen from the house, between the trees of several scattered clumps, most picturesquely; in others it is quite lost behind hills, and breaks everywhere upon the view, in a style that cannot be too much admired. The shrubbery that adjoins the house is disposed with the utmost taste; the waving slopes, dotted with firs, pines, etc., are exceedingly pretty; and the temple is fixed at so beautiful a spot as to command the sweet landscape of the park, and the rich prospect of adjacent country which rises in a bold manner, and presents an admirable view of cultivated hills! Winding up the hill among the plantations and woods, which are laid out in an agreeable manner, we come to the bowling green, which is thickly encompassed with evergreens, retired and beautiful, with a very light and pretty Chinese temple on one side of it, and from thence across a dark walk, catching a most beautiful view of a bank of distant wood. The next object is a statue of Ceres, in a retired spot; the cascade appearing with a good effect, and through the divisions of it, the distant prospect is seen very finely. The lawn which leads up to the Castle is elegant; there is a clump of firs on one side of it, through which the distant prospect is seen; and the above-mentioned statue of Ceres caught in the hollow of a dark grove, with the most picturesque effect, and is one among the few instances of statues being employed in gardens with real taste. From the platform of grass, within the Castle walls (in the centre of which is a statue of the late Earl who built it), over the battlements you behold a surprising prospect on whichever side you look; but the view

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which pleases me best is that opposite the entrance, where you look down upon a valley which is extensive, finely bounded by rising cultivated hills, and very complete in being commanded at a single look, notwithstanding its vast variety."

Not only did Lord Strafford erect ornamental buildings on his own domain, but he also placed others on conspicuous parts of the extensive tracts of common by which his estate was surrounded. Among these we may instance the pyramid, or what was more popularly called the "Smoothing Iron," on Blacker Common,* and the extensive series of castle-ruins which formerly ran along the ridge of the hill for a considerable distance, on Worsbro' Common. These had the appearance of the ruins of a fortification, and gave an interesting appearance to the district around,† and with respect to which, on the enclosure of the Commons in 1817, it was enacted, "that all the castle-ruins and ornamental buildings which have formerly been erected by William, Earl of Strafford, or any of his ancestors, upon the said

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* 1767, Sep. 14.—Paid on account of Pyramid..... £5 0 0

† The artificial ruins on Worsborough Common were erected in 1765 and 1766. The following are some of the payments made on their account :—

	£	s.	d.
1765, Oct. 9.—Bower, in full for ye Tower	5	3	6
Ditto for Ruin.....	5	3	6
Robinson for Ruins.....	3	3	0
Tower at the Ruins.....	1	15	6
1765, Dec. 8.—For the Ruins.....	12	4	0
1766, July 13.—Mason work for ditto	6	13	6
Aug. 17.—The High Tower	5	15	0
Sep. 7.—Ditto	4	0	0
Sep. 27.—Paid for the Ruins	4	11	6

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Commons, shall, with the ground whereupon the same do stand, at all times hereafter be deemed the property of F. W. T. V. Wentworth, &c., with liberty to repair, support, and rebuild the same, and for that purpose to carry materials through and over the allotments adjoining to the said castle-ruins and ornamental buildings." "And that the Rock called Highstone, standing upon Highstone Common, with the ground on which it stands, shall likewise at all times hereafter be deemed the property of the said F. W. T. V. Wentworth, Mr. Wentworth to have so much of the Common adjoining the plantation there as he may require." "And all woods (except Dove Cliffe), plantations, and single trees on the said Commons, at or near the Race Common, Highstone Common, Round Green, Birdwell, and Blacker Common, and the soil and space in which they grow, not exceeding in the whole ten acres, shall be and continue the property of Mr. Wentworth, without the same being considered a part of the allotment, and he has liberty to fence off such woods and plantations, and all the said single trees."

In 1769 there is a letter from Walpole to the Earl of Strafford, in which he says:—"I shall not be able, I fear, to profit by the weather this summer in the loveliest of all places, as I am to go to Paris in August. But next year I trust I shall accompany Mr. Conway and Lady Ailesbury to Wentworth Castle. I shall be glad to visit Castle Howard and Beverley, but neither would carry me so far if Wentworth Castle was not in the way." Walpole's friend Mason, the poet, lived on terms of great intimacy with Lord and Lady Strafford, and was a frequent visitor at Wentworth Castle. Writing to Walpole, who was coming into Yorkshire (May 17, 1772), he expresses his pleasure

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that he (Walpole) would take his first glimpse of the beauties of the West Riding from his (Mason's) study [at Aston], before he advanced to the centre of its beauties, Wentworth Castle. On the 9th August, 1774, he writes again :—"I paid a visit the other day to Wentworth Castle, where I found the noble owners very solitary, but to all appearance perfectly happy. They had been that morning to Wortley on a visit to Lady Bute. Lady Mary Coke is expected at Wentworth Castle next week, and they much wish for you." On the 20th May, 1775, he says:—"I came hither to pay my respects to Lord and Lady Strafford, to whom I had long owed a visit, and who had been particularly civil to me, much of which civility I have always imputed to the partiality of your friendship for me; be this as it may, here I am, and much better for my journey, and a long walk which I took yesterday in a clear frosty morning with his lordship." On July 1st, 1778: "My present noble host's seasons go by clock work as old as Tompion's. I came here last Monday, and shall return to my flock on Saturday. His lordship and her ladyship are much yours, and bid me say so. The latter I think a most excellent woman, and somewhat different from the *De la Coque* you mention ; but I think I can account for this difference in a manner not very flattering to the sex." *

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* *Walpole and Mason's Correspondence*, Vol. I., pp. 26, 27, 213, &c. In one of his letters, Mason asks Walpole for a letter of introduction to friends in Paris, for Mr. Foljambe, a gentleman "of ancient family, and good fortune in the neighbourhood ;" and Walpole, prior to a proposed visit to Wentworth Castle, asks Mason to send a tracing of the route, with the distances marked. Yorkshire in those days was as remote from town as Greenland is to-day.

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Walpole, writing to the Earl on the 31st August, 1781, says : "Lord and Lady Harcourt, I hope, will visit Wentworth Castle. As they both have taste, I should be sorry if they did not see the perfectest specimen of architecture I know." Speaking of the times, Walpole says : "Oh ! when shall we have peace and tranquillity. I hope your lordship and Lady Strafford will at least enjoy the latter in your charming woods. You have never sold yourself, and therefore have not been accessory to our destruction. You must be happy now not to have a son, who would live to grovel in the dregs of England. Your lordship has long been so wise as to secede from the follies of your countrymen. May you and Lady Strafford long enjoy the tranquillity that has been your option in better days."

In a letter to Miss Berry, in 1789 (*Miss Berry's Correspondence*, vol. i., p. 189) Walpole writes : "Gra'mercy for your intention of seeing Wentworth Castle; it is my favourite of all great seats. Such a variety of ground, of wood and water; and almost all executed and disposed with so much taste by the present earl ! Mr. Gilpin could sillily see nothing but faults there ! The new front is, in my opinion, one of the lightest and most beautiful buildings on earth—and pray like the little Gothic edifice and its position in the menagerie; I recommended it, and had it drawn by Mr. Bentley from Chichester Cross."

Gray, the poet, visited Wentworth Castle in 1762, and spoke of it as being as beautiful a scene of rich and cultivated country as Yorkshire affords.

A sad accident occurred at Wentworth Castle in 1784 to the beautiful and accomplished Lady Strafford, which threw a great gloom over the household and a large circle of

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friends. While near the fire, a little before Christmas in that year, her ladyship's clothes accidentally ignited, and she was terribly burnt.* She was so injured, and the shock to her system from the fright had such an effect upon her, that she had a succession of fits, and became so seriously ill that she died from the effects, on the 7th of February following, in the 65th year of her age, and was buried in the family vault at Toddington.† Walpole, writing to the Countess of Ossory, Feb. 5th, 1785, alludes to this sad event in the following manner :—"Your aunt, Lady Dowager Gower, is dying of a similar accident to poor Lady Strafford's, in whom the mortification is said to be begun. As much as I shall pity Lord Strafford, it is impossible to be sorry for her. She had burnt off one ear, part of the other, and was likely to lose one of her eyes.‡

The Prince of Wales (afterwards George IV.) paid a visit to Earl Fitzwilliam at Wentworth House, on Tuesday, September 1, 1789, and was present at a fête given in honour of his Royal Highness, at which twenty thousand persons were assembled, and for which the preparations and hospitality were on the most magnificent scale. On

* *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1785, part 1, p. 257.

† "The Rt. Hble. Lady Anne Campbell Countess of Strafford buried, Feb. 26, 1785."—*Toddington Parish Register.*

‡ There is a tradition still extant in the district, to the effect, that on the occasion of this sad event, one of the grooms, named John Garlick, was dispatched post to London, to summon additional medical aid. The journey, it is stated, he accomplished in 18 hours, which must have been a great feat, considering the state of the roads at that time. On his return to Stainborough, he had to make a second journey, which he is stated to have accomplished in 17 hours.

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the following day, his Royal Highness paid a morning visit to Lord Strafford (who was then in his 77th year) at Wentworth Castle, proceeding along the beautiful drive and avenue through Rockley Wood to the Castle, where he greatly admired the attractions of the place, returning at four o'clock in the afternoon to Wentworth House.*

Tradition says that Queen Anne was to have visited her favourite Minister at Stainborough, and that state rooms were fitted up for her reception. Such an event, however, never took place, but the apartments set apart for her Majesty are known to this day as Queen Anne's rooms.

In 1731, there was a probability of George II. visiting Stainborough. The king was expected to visit York Races, and Peter Wentworth wrote to his brother, the then Lord Strafford, recommending him to invite his Majesty, for "if

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* "1789, August 24. The Prince of Wales was at York Races. On the 1st September, Earl Fitzwilliam gave a magnificent fête at Wentworth House in honour of His Royal Highness. Nothing could be more superb and sumptuous than the whole of the arrangements. It was in the true style of English hospitality. On being honoured with the presence of the heir apparent, the gates were thrown open to the love and loyalty of the surrounding country, and not fewer than 20,000 persons partook of his lordship's bounty. The diversions (consisting of all the rural sports common in this part of the country) lasted the whole day, and his lordship's park was the grand stage on which the numerous personages played their parts. The spectators were the Prince, with his attendants, and the nobility and gentry from every part of the county without distinction. The dinner was an assemblage of every delicacy the world could produce. The ball at night, consisting of more than 200 ladies, the flower of Yorkshire, with their partners, was the most brilliant ever seen beyond the Humber." —*Annual Register*, 1789, p. 221.

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he cares," he says, "for coming to Wentworth Castle, it may be the occasion of excusing himself to Lord Malton, to whose house I think it wou'd not be creditable for you to meet the king. Upon his going, I believe he'll stop at no place but at the Duke of Newcastle's till he comes to York, where you and your family may meet him." The king's visit, however, to York Races at this time did not come off.

Lord Strafford, after being ill for some time, died at Wentworth Castle on the 10th March, 1791, in the 79th year of his age. He had enjoyed the honours of the peerage for a period of nearly sixty years, and at the time of his decease was the oldest peer in the kingdom. The disease which was the immediate cause of death was stone in the bladder. Horace Walpole, writing to Miss Berry on Sunday, the 12th of the same month, says: "Yesterday I had the misfortune of hearing of the death of my oldest remaining friend, Lord Strafford, whom I knew from the time he was twelve years old, and who was invariably kind and obliging to me. This is the heavy tax one pays for living so long."* His lordship's remains were for some time laid in state at Wentworth Castle, where they were visited by many persons from Barnsley and the district around, where his memory was held in much esteem. The body was then removed by easy stages to Toddington, where it was interred in the family vault on the 26th March, 1791—16 days after decease.†

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* "The Right Honourable William Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, buried, March 26, 1791."—*Toddington Parish Register.*

† *Walpole's Correspondence*, vol. i., p. 189.

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The expenses of his funeral were as follows :—

	£	s	d.
" The Coffin Furniture	2	0	0
To four hundred and a half of gold laying on, at 2s. 6d.	0	11	3
Ye Plate writing	0	1	0
Ye Coach and Hearse, 11 days at 10s. per day each	11	0	0
A Set of Horses, 11 days at 40s.	22	0	0
Two Men and myself, 11 days at 10s. per day each	16	10	0
Ye Velvet Pall	1	1	0
One dozen of Silk Escutcheons, at 10s. 6d. each	6	6	0
One dozen of Shields, at 6s.	3	12	0
One dozen and a half of Buckeram Escutcheons, at 5s.	4	10	0
Three doz. of Streamers, at 18s. per doz.	2	14	0
Half-a-dozen of Frunlets	0	9	0
An Achievement	5	0	0
One Gentleman's Cloak	0	2	6
Two Coachmen's Cloaks, 5 days	0	15	0
The Leaden Coffin	7	2	10
	£83	14	7

" *Total of the Expense of my Lord Strafford's Funeral* :—

	£	s.	d.
" Fees paid to the Parson and Clerk of Silkstone Church	0	16	8
Mr. Addinell, the Undertaker's bill, as above, the lead coffin included	83	14	7
Mr. Deykin [of Barnsley], the Draper's Bill.	7	5	2

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	£	s.	d.
Mr. Mark Smith [of Barnsley], the Joiner's Bill [for the outer coffin, which had on it 7 brass coronets]	4	19	6
Mr. Hamilton's [Lord Strafford's gentleman] bill of Expenses on the road, board wages, and Mr. Lord's bill	31	7	6
	£128	3	5"

To the poor of the parish of Silkstone £5 was distributed on the occasion.

Leaving no issue, the titles of Earl of Strafford and Viscount Wentworth descended to the Earl's cousin. Frederick Thomas Wentworth, of Henbury, in Dorsetshire. The deceased Earl left property (in his own right, in addition to the entailed estates), according to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, to the amount of £75,000, the bulk of which he bequeathed to his sister, Lady Conolly,* for her life, with remainder to George Byng, Esq. Sir George Howard, who had married another sister, had great expectations, but, it is said, had only a legacy of £500, and Sir George's grandchildren £3,000 each.† The Lord Chancellor was left executor. Lady Conolly,‡ who was the earl's

* "On the death of William, Earl of Strafford, in 1791, all his estates in Northants, Beds, Suffolk, Kent, Sussex, Middlesex, and the City of London were vested in the heirs of his three sisters as Tenants in Common, and by Act of Parliament were divided amongst them in 1795."—*MS. in possession of F. A. Blaydes, Esq., of Leighton Buzzard.*

† *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1791, part I., p. 285.

‡ In a letter to Miss Berry, dated June 8, 1791, Walpole writes: "I went to Strawberry Hill on Saturday. At six I drove to Lord Strafford's, where his goods are to be sold by auction; his sister, Lady Anne Conolly, intending to pull down the house at Twickenham and rebuild it."—*Walpole's Correspondence*, vol. vi., p. 438.

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eldest and favourite sister, had married the Right Hon. William Conolly, of Castletown, Ireland, and Stratton Hall, in the county of Stafford, and their only son was the Right Hon. Thomas Conolly, the distinguished orator, one of his Majesty's most honourable Privy Councillors, and 40 years representative for the county of Londonderry. He was great nephew of the Right Hon. Wm. Conolly, Speaker of the House of Commons, and one of the Lords Justices of Ireland, and married Lady Louisa Lennox, daughter of Charles Duke of Richmond, whose virtues will be long remembered in Ireland, but by whom he had no issue. The female issue of the Rt. Hon. Thomas Conolly and Lady Anne Wentworth were: 1, Catherine (Countess of Ross), 2, Frances (Viscountess Howe), 3, Caroline (Countess of Buckinghamshire), whose only daughter married Viscount Castlereagh, son of Robert Earl of Londonderry, and Anne, who married George Byng, Esq.,* and had issue

* George Byng, Esq., M.P., who was grandson to the first Viscount Torrington, and great grandson to Thomas, Earl of Strafford, died on the 10th January, 1847, in the 82nd year of his age. In his younger brother, General Sir John Byng, the Earldom of Strafford was revived. He was elevated to the peerage as Baron Strafford, 12th May, 1835, and created Viscount Enfield, and Earl of Strafford, 18th September, 1847. He died June 3, 1860, in Lower Grosvenor Street, at the advanced age of 88, being, with the exception of Lord Sinclair, the oldest Member of the House of Peers. He entered the army at an early age, and served throughout the Peninsular War, at Waterloo, and in the Netherlands, with great distinction, receiving the thanks of Parliament for his services. He was a Field Marshal in the Army; Knight of various foreign orders; Colonel of the Coldstream Guards, and Governor of Londonderry and Culmore. He at one time resided at Campsmount, near Askern, and at Aldwarke, near Rotherham. He was succeeded in the Earldom by his son, the present Earl of Strafford.

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George Byng, Esq., M.P. for Middlesex, who by the will of his uncle, the Rt. Hon. Thomas Conolly, succeeded to his large estates in Ireland, and to other property in England, including that which had belonged to Lord Strafford.* Lord Strafford kept the whole of Lady Strafford's servants at Stainborough after her ladyship's death, and to these, as well as those in his own service, he left on his decease annuities for life. Two of these domestics lived in the enjoyment of their annuities for a period of 55 years, as will be seen from the following notices of their deaths :— "April 1, 1845. Died at Stainborough, aged 77 years, John Allen, better known by the name of 'Old Baker,' which name he got by his being baker to the late William Earl of Strafford, at Wentworth Castle, and at whose death his lordship left him, along with other domestics, a handsome annuity. The deceased up to a short period of his death continued to be a servant at Wentworth Castle, under F. W. T. V. Wentworth, Esq., as postman to and from Barnsley. He was well known and highly respected." "Died, May 21st, in the same year, at Barnsley, aged 77, Mr. Luke Graham, formerly landlord of the Wellington, at that place, and the last of the pensioned domestics of William Earl of Strafford."

Frederick Thomas, the third Earl of Strafford, of Stainborough, who now succeeded his cousin to the earldom,

* "When, in 1847, Sir John Byng, who had been created Baron Strafford in 1835, was elevated to the title of Earl of Strafford, the late Lord Fitzwilliam naturally felt that this trenched on a grand name inseparably connected with his Yorkshire property; so he restored the old name of 'Wentworth Woodhouse' to his mansion."—*Yorkshire Archæological Journal*, p. 366 (1881).

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was the son of William Wentworth, Esq., of Henbury, in Dorsetshire, and grandson of Peter Wentworth (brother of Thomas, the first earl of the second creation), to whose issue the earldom of Strafford was limited. Peter of Henbury had one son and two daughters. The son, William Wentworth, had also a son and two daughters, the son being the above Frederick, who succeeded his cousin in the earldom; and one of the daughters was Augusta Anne, who married John Hatfield Kaye, Esq. This earl only enjoyed the title and estates some eight years, when he died suddenly in 1799. The *Gentleman's Magazine* for that year, at page 725, gives the following short notice of him: "After passing through the usual course of education at Eton, he was placed in the first regiment of the Guards, where his knowledge of the theory and attention to the practice of his profession procured him the esteem of his superior officers, at the same time that his social and friendly temper more immediately attached to him those of his own rank. He resigned, however, the profession of arms, and on the 17th February, 1771, married Miss Elizabeth Gould, daughter of Thomas Gould, Esq., of Milbourne, St. Andrews, County Dorset. His residence was then fixed in a retired part of the same county, until the death of his father, in 1776, put him in possession of his paternal estate. It was now more particularly his province to enforce, in an official capacity, the observance of the laws of his country; and, as a justice of the peace, no man ever more assiduously devoted his time to hearing cases with attention, and deciding them with scrupulous exactitude. Upon the death of the Earl of Strafford, in 1791, he succeeded to the title, and great part of the

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estates; but, leaving no issue, all the titles became extinct except the Barony of Raby, to which Peregrine Wentworth, Esq., of York, was supposed to have a claim." Having come into possession of the family honours, this Earl spent much of his time at Stainborough, where he is still remembered and spoken of as the "short-armed lord," and some interesting anecdotes are told of him, which show some favourable traits of character. Lord Strafford, who was a Fellow of the Royal Society, died at Nottingham on the 6th of August, 1799, on his way from Henbury, his Dorsetshire residence, to Wentworth Castle. He retired to rest in apparent health, and was found dead by his servant next morning. Leaving no issue all the titles became extinct. At the time, as stated above, some speculation was caused with regard to the Barony of Raby, to which Peregrine Wentworth, who held the post of Registrar of Deeds at Wakefield, was supposed to have a claim, but no such claim would appear to have been made out. Lord Strafford's widow married, after the Earl's death, William Churchill, son of the celebrated Awnsham Churchill.* She would appear to have lived at Henbury, and died in 1811. On the death of Lord Strafford without issue, the entailed estates devolved upon his only surviving sister, Augusta Anne, who had married, on the

* "Awnsham Churchill, who is said by Granger to have been the greatest bookseller and stationer of his time, died April 24, 1728. He had by Sarah, daughter of John Lowndes, Esq., three sons, of whom the eldest, Wm. Churchill, married first, Louisa Augusta Greville, daughter of Francis, first Earl Brooke, and Earl of Warwick, by whom he had one son, William, the present possessor of Henbury. He married, secondly, Elizabeth, widow of Frederick Thomas, third Earl of Strafford."—*Nichol's Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. iii., p. 713.

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30th May, 1771, John Hatfield Kaye, Esq., of Hatfield Hall, near Wakefield.* Mr. and Mrs. Hatfield Kaye, both well advanced in years, came to reside at Wentworth Castle, but did not live long to enjoy their accession of wealth, she dying within a period of three years of her brother, and Mr. Kaye not long afterwards. Mr. Hatfield Kaye is known as having been a person of literary tastes. He at one time undertook, along with Richard Henry Beaumont, of Whitley Hall; Mr. Wilson, of Broomhead; and John Charles Brooke, the herald, to assist in writing a history of the West Riding of the county of York, Mr. Hatffeld Kaye undertaking the district of Morley. The undertaking, however, was abandoned.†

On her death, Mrs Hatfield Kaye bequeathed by her will, dated 22nd April, 1801, the estates to the Right Hon. Thomas Conolly (grandson of the first Lord Strafford of the second creation), of Castletown, Ireland, and his male issue, and in default to Frederick William Thomas Vernon, second son of Henry Vernon, Esq., of Hilton Park, in the County of Stafford. Conolly died without issue soon after coming into possession of the estates, and they therefore passed to their present proprietor, who was then seven years of age, and who in consequence assumed the additional surname and arms of Wentworth, and has been the worthy owner

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* "Married on 30th May, 1771, John Hatfield Kaye, Esq., of Hatfield Hall, near Wakefield, to Miss Wentworth, of Henbury, Dorsetshire." —*Gentleman's Magazine.*

† "A volume of drawings with MS. notes which had belonged to Dr. Johnston, the antiquary, was exchanged by Mr. Astle with John Hatfield Kaye, of Hatfield Hall, Yorkshire."—see *Nichol's Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. v., p. 329.

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of the estates, and shed a benignant influence over the district around Stainborough for a period of nearly 80 years. He is a great grandson of Thomas, Earl of Strafford, who purchased, and did so much towards making Stainborough what it now is, and grandson to Lady Henrietta Wentworth, the youngest daughter of that nobleman, who married Henry Vernon, Esq., of Hilton Park, Mr. Wentworth's grandfather.

The family of Vernon is a branch of the noble family of Vernon, that assumed its surname from the town of Vernon in Normandy, and was established in England by one of the companions in arms of the Conqueror. A Sir Henry Vernon, of Houndshill, a member of this family, married in 1633, Muriel, only daughter and heiress of Sir George Vernon, of Haslington, one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas. Another George Vernon was created, in 1762, Lord Vernon, Baron of Kinderton. Thomas Vernon, of Hilton Park, in the early part of the last century, brought the first weeping willow into England from Persia. The distinguished Admiral Vernon, who died in 1794, was uncle to Mr. Vernon Wentworth of Wentworth Castle. Henry Vernon, Esq., of Hilton Park (grandfather of Mr. Wentworth), married, in 1743, Lady Henrietta Wentworth, youngest daughter, as we have said, of Thomas, Earl of Strafford, by whom he had a family of three sons and five daughters. Their eldest son was Henry (Mr. Wentworth's father), and their other issue, William, who died unmarried in 1775; Levison, of Stoke, in the county of Northampton, and Aldborough, in Suffolk; Anne, married to Lord Berwick; Henrietta, married firstly, Richard, Lord Grosvenor, and was mother of the Marquess of Westminster; her ladyship married, secondly, General

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George Porter, M.P., and died in 1828; Lucy died unmarried in 1783; Caroline, Maid of Honour to Charlotte, Queen Consort of George III., died unmarried in 1829; and Jane, who died unmarried, in 1805.

Henry Vernon succeeded his father at Hilton Park, and married first, in 1775, Penelope, daughter and co-heiress of Arthur Graham, Esq., of Dublin, and had by her a son, Henry Charles Edward Vernon (afterwards General Vernon, who succeeded to the family estates at Hilton on the death of his father in 1814, and died in 1861). He married, secondly, in 1794, Margaret, daughter of Thomas Fisher, Esq., of Acton, in the county of Middlesex, and had by her Frederick William Thomas (now of Wentworth Castle), and George Augustus Frederick, who died in 1815. Mr. Vernon accompanied his son to Stainborough, and did much in superintending the management of his estates up to the time of his death in 1814, his death taking place at Paris on the 27th October in that year, and he was buried in the Cemetery of Pere la Chaise, where there is a monument to his memory. Mr. Vernon was a great traveller, of whom Miss Seward makes the following observations:—"Mr. Vernon roamed during a ten years' tour, with enthusiastic curiosity, not only over the Celtic and Ibernian fields, but almost over every scene upon the globe, which has been dignified by martial prowess, or has obtained poetic celebrity. He has seen when in tolerable preservation, a great part of the temple of Ceres, has stood upon Mount Calvary, Olympus, and the Aonians hills, and has drunk of the now exhausted waters of the Simois and Scamander; has fought, since England sheathed the sword, the Indians for America, and the Turks for the Empress.

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He was some time at Gibraltar with General Elliot, and obtained the friendship of that illustrious being. It gives me pleasure that he, my neighbour, Mr. Vernon, stands so high in Lord Heathfield's esteem. He has considerable talents and exertions; and the warm and entirely voluntary praise of so great and good a man proves that they have been, at least of late years, directed to noble purposes."

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